FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 FEBRUARY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi troops overran Iranian positions in the southern Majnun oil fields, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses 14 February. Iraqi forces "annihilated" the Iranian troops and consolidated their positions in the area, the communique added. Iraqi troops also continued to advance 14 February toward Iranian forces that had crossed the Shatt al-'Arab, INA reported. Meanwhile, an Iranian military statement reported by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces repelled three Iraqi counteroffensives on the Al-Faw-Basra highway 14 February while Iranian troops consolidated positions north of Al-Faw. The radio also claimed 14 February that 10,000 Iraqi troops had been killed or wounded in the overall offensive, while IRNA reported 13 February that 1,500 Iraqi troops had been captured.

In the air war, Iraqi planes attacked Khark Island, the Ganaveh pipeline intersection, and Ahvaz airport 13 February, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. An Iranian military communique cited by IRNA reported that Iraqi planes also attacked Abadan.

Egypt-PLO

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat 13 February, MENA reported. In a statement on arriving in Cairo, 'Arafat said he and Mubarak would discuss U.S. proposals on the Middle East issue, according to an earlier MENA report. 'Arafat said the Jordanian-Palestinian talks were suspended due to "U.S. intransigence and bias" toward Israel, MENA added.

Libya

Fighting in Chad — "Libyan forces" attacked the Chadian Government post at Ziguey and stepped up their attack on Oum Chalouba, AFP reported citing the Chadian ambassador to France. A GUNT spokesman meanwhile claimed that Oum Chalouba and Kouba Olanga are under GUNT control, AFP added. Ndjamena radio later reported that Chadian Government troops repelled the attack on Ziguey.

Relations With Algeria — Libya and Algeria completed work toward a "unionist move," Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud said at the conclusion of a 4-day visit to Algeria, Tripoli television reported.

Israel

The proposed "devolution" plan would not take the place of a permanent solution for the territories, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said in an interview with Jerusalem television. Peres said he is proposing the plan as an "addition to or improvement on the current situation." In Herzliyya, the Egyptian and Israeli delegations reported progress on normalizing relations between the two states, according to an IDF radio report on the 13 February proceedings. The arbitration committee resolved marginal points but has yet to deal with "problematic" issues, the radio added. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that six people were injured when a bomb exploded on a bus near Tel Aviv. The PLO's Force-17 corps claimed responsibility for the bombing in a telephone call to AFP.

Lebanon

The Damascus tripartite agreement contains "many important principles" but requires "modifications" concerning the division of power and other matters, President Amin al-Jumayyil said in a French press interview reported by Beirut radio. Responding to calls to step down from office, Al-Jumayyil told *LE MONDE* that his resignation now would "paralyze" the country's institutions.

PDRY

In an interview in Addis Ababa, former leader 'Ali Nasir Muhammad told the UAE's *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* that all the military forces backing him are located in the PDRY and that none are in the YAR. In Aden, General Secretary of the YSP Central Committee 'Ali Salim Al-Bid called for closer relations between the PDRY and Ethiopia in a news conference reported by Aden radio. Meanwhile, PLO representative in Aden 'Abbas Zaki denied that the new leadership had asked him to leave the country in a statement to the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ*. Aden radio earlier reported that Zaki met with Housing Minister Muhammad Ahmad Salman and with Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali.

Morocco

An appeals court imposed prison sentences on all but one of 27 people charged with attempting to overthrow the monarchy and reconstitute a banned left-wing movement, AFP reported.

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Further Reportage on Klibi Press Conference

JN131541 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Commenting on the anomalous stand the Syrian and Libyan regimes have adopted toward Iraq and their support for Iran, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi said: We abide by the basic principles dealing with the Arab situation, principles which were defined by the Arab League Council and the Fes summiit. At a press conference in Baghdad today, Klibi added: Our stand which is in line wiith the Arab League Charter is the one by which we abide.

On the threats the head of the Iraniian regime made yesterday to countries which are members of the seven-member committee, Klibi said: We are in solidariity with Iraq which is an Arab League member. We will not relinquish our pan-Arab duty.

At the press conference which was attended by Arab and foreign correspondents, Klibi read the text of the communique which the seven-member committee had issued supporting Iraq, denouncing the unjust Iranian aggression against Iraqi territory, warning Iran against the condsequences of pursuing this aggression, and calling on the UN Security Council to hold an emergency session to discuss this aggression.

PLO Envoys in Europe Determine Future Moves

GF121746 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The meetings between the directors of the offices in the Western European countries and the cadres of the Political Department, under the chairmanship of Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], chairman of the PLO Political Department, which began in Tunis on 7 February, ended on 11 February. These meetings comprehensively reviewed developments related to the Palestinian issue, relations between the PLO and the Western European countries, the situation in the Palestinian arena in particular, and the Arab situation in general, and the mechanism of the work of the PLO offices and representatives in European countries.

Brother Abu al-Lutf presented a comprehensive report on political developments and the future policy of the movement in the European arena. In one of the sessions, Brother Abu Iyad presented a report on the latest development and the recent Palestinian-Jordanian talks in Amman.

The directors of the PLO offices presented comprehensive reports on relations between the PLO and the Western European countries and on the mechanism of these offices. All have noticed that the PLO is being subjected to a concentrated attack by the United States and other circles for the purpose of cancelling the national identity of the Palestinian people, destroying the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, and liquidating the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. Malicious methods are being used in this attack to put pressure on the PLO militarily, politically, and financially and to lay siege upon it to isolate it from the international community and from its people. The meetings were concluded by determining a general trend for the political and information moves in the next stage based on the following:

1. To firmly adhere to the national Palestinian constants, especially the rights of the Palestinian people to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state;

2. To adhere to the international legitimacy represented by all UN resolutions concerning the Palestinian issue;

3. To continue consolidating all legitimate means of struggle approved by international legislation for the peoples struggling to liberate their homelands from foreign occupation, including armed struggle;

4. To fully abide by the PNC resolutions;

5. To implement the resolutions of the Executive Committee concerning the democratic dialogue to achieve and consolidate national Palestinian unity and Arab solidarity and to eliminate the impurities which have been created in relations between the PLO and some fraternal Arab countries;

6. To consolidate and strengthen relations of struggle solidarity between the PLO and the socialist countries, nonaligned countries, the Islamic countries, all progressive and democratic forces in the world, and the national liberation movements in Africa, Asia, and Latin America;

7. To attempt to develop relations with all Western European countries in all political, cultural, health, and economic fields and to raise these relations to the level of developed relations existing between the PLO and Greece, Austria, Cyprus, Malta, and Italy.

It has been indicated on all occasions that all are proud of the struggle of our people in the occupied territories, their cohesion and rallying around the PLO and its national revolutionary leadership, their firm adherence to their national rights, their daily bold resistance to the occupation, and their brave steadfastness on their soil.

Qaddumi: Nothing New Indicated in U.S. Statement

JN131010 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
13 Feb 86 p 20

[Excerpt] Tunis, QNA — Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, has expressed his belief that the statement issued by the U.S. State Department last Monday [7 Feb] on the Middle East peace process did not bring anything new and did not reflect any change in the U.S. stand.

In a statement here yesterday, Qaddumi said anyone who reads the U.S. Statement can clearly see the failure to adhere to a frank reply to a specific stand toward basic issues without which the peace process cannot be completed, such as the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, PLO participation at an international conference, and guarantees that would ensure the [continuation of the peace process. He reaffirmed that the Palestinian people's right to self-determination is a natural right and should be a basis for the peace process and that the Palestinian people must participate in the negotiations through their sole legitimate representative.

PLO Official Says U.S. Must Further Define Stance

NC121753 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] PLO representative in Cairo Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim has commented on a statement made by a U.S. State Department spokesman yesterday about the United States' stance on the Palestinian people's rights. In a statement to our reporter, 'Abd al-Rahim said: The expression "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people" is elastic and apt to be interpreted in different ways. The United States should have defined the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, above all their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their own state within the context of a confederation with Jordan. The United States should also recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

U.S. Statement Criticized

JN121853 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] O brothers, all the words that may give positive meaning to the recent U.S. statement on UN Resolution 242 concerning the Palestine question are incomplete. Regarding form, the statement was made by the deputy spokesman of the State Department, not by Secretary of State Shultz, for example, or President Reagan. This is evidence of the importance that Washington wants to attach to the statement and the extent of the commitments to which it wants to adhere. Regarding the content of the statement, Redman said that the U.S. Administration has previously stated its realization that the Palestinian problem is more than a refugee problem. But he did not define more than that.. Consequently, as it is clear in the rest of the statement, the U.S. Administration did not provide any concept of the final form that a solution to the Palestine question may take.

Thus, the Palestinian people's rights, which have a positive echo in our ears, remain vague in Washington's stand. Moreover, Washington has not adopted a clear-cut position on these riaur ears, remaghts in accordance with the international concept of people's rights or as is clear in the Palestinian problem itself. These rights are the right to self-determination and the right to repatriation. On the basis of this vague position, the U.S. statement says that the full manner in which the Palestinian people's legitimate rights are exercised will become clear as the negotiations proceed. It also places the question of recognizing these rights, whose concepts and the manner in which they will be exercised remain unclear, at the same level of what it calls resolving the location of boundaries and the nature of the security arrangements. These are also the subject of negotiations regarding the final status of the West Bank and Gaza.

The statement adds: "In our view, there should be Palestinian participation at every stage of the negotiating process." As expected, this Palestinian participation also remains cloaked in the same intended vagueness. This vagueness increases when the statement says that any agreement on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza should receive the prior consent of the inhabitants of those territories. It seems that the statement separates the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza from the rest of the Palestinian people and their cause with regard to Palestinian representation and the Palestinian problem. In light of all this vagueness surrounding the talk about the aspects of the Palestine question, the statement remains clear in demanding prior recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 by any side that may enter into the negotiations, whose framework is also not defined.

Milhim Welcomes U.S. Stand on Palestinian Cause

JN121301 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Fu'ad Na'im dispatch from Amman]

[Excerpt] Official Jordanian quarters received with interest the statements that the U.S. Department made yesterday, considering that the Palestinian cause is more than a problem of refugees. Although there hass been no official Jordanian comment on the subject, the official Jordanian media, such as the television and the radio, highlighted in detail the U.S. stand and the Jordanian press carried it on its front pages.

Muhammad Milhim, PLO Executive Committee member, has told our radio that he believes that the U.S. spokesman's statements are a qualitative step in the U.S. stand. He added that he believes that this qualitative step is represented in two basic points.

The first is that the U.S. State Department affirmed that Resolution 242 is in itself not sufficient for settling the Palestinian issue. The second point is that the U.S. statements are an indirect U.S. reply to Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Pres who had said that the Jordanian-Palestinian talks failed and that Israel must make its own arrangements in the occupied territories.

Soviet's Jewery Immigration Evokes Comment

GF131336 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[From the Press review]

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-JAZIRAH* comments on Soviet dissidents, especially those who have acquired a worldwide reputation by virtue of the attention given to them by Western propaganda, such as Sakharov and Scharananskiy. It says: A large sector of the Arab public wonders about the reason for their dissent with the USSR. The closest answer is that they are not communists, and that they were dissatisfied with living in a communist country hostile to celestial religions. But this is not the correct answer. The paper explains: The true reason for their dissent with the USSR is because they are Zionist Jews who believe in the idea of a Jewish state in the land of Israel, which is the occupied Arab Palestine. Their only aim by demanding emigration from the Soviet Union directly to Israel or to another country in Europe as a first step in their journey to Israel, is to join their Zionist brothers in Israel and to render their academic and applicative knowledge and expertise to the service of the Zionist strategy. The implementation of this strategy's political and military plans is enhanced by the idea of the continued existence of Israel on the land of Palestine.

The Zionist Jewish dissidents who arrive in Israel from the USSR represent the most dangerous foreign aid for maintaining Israel on the Arab land of Palestine and for achieving the expansionist greed of the Zionist Jews.

French Denial of 'Arafat Statement Refuted

PM121633 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 12 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Unattributed report: "*AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* replies to French Spokesman"]

[Excerpt] London — Yesterday, the French Ministry for External Relations, in a departure from regular political and information practises, issued a strange statement denying PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* and casting doubts on the authenticity of the statement.

In his statement, 'Arafat accused the United States, Britain, and France of trying to create a Palestinian substitute for the PLO. *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* reported this statement accurately as it always does in such situations. But a spokesman for the French Ministry issued a statement that was lacking in objectivity. It said: "The ministry totally rejects *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*'s allegations because they are groundless. It doubts that such allegations agree with actual statements made by Yasir 'Arafat."

Al-SHARQ AL-AWSAT would like to reaffirm to the French spokesman and to others that Yasir 'Arafat made this statement to 'Arafat Hijazi, its correspondent in Amman, and that it is recorded on a tape. The French spokesman should only have denied what 'Arafat said if it was not true but should not have criticized the paper that carried the statement, particularly in view of the fact that he represents a country that believes in liberty and freedom of the press.

Palestinian Forces Claim Blasts in Israeli Cities

JN131745 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1642 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command has stated the following: Our heroes from the Martyr Halim Group operating inside the occupied homeland managed to plant a timed, explosive charge in the central bus station in 'Afula. Afterward, the group withdrew from the scene of the operation with complete success. At 1100 today, 13 February 1986, the explosive charge detonated causing extensive damage to several buses belonging to the Zionist Egged company and wounding two enemy personnel who were evacuated to the hospital. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command

The Palestinian military spokesman has also stated the following: One of our fighter groups operating inside the occupied homeland planted a timed, high-explosive charge near a Zionist court in the port of Haifa. The charge exploded on time this morning causing extensive damage to the court building, as well as killing or wounding a number of Zionists who were present during the explosion. The group withdrew from the scene of the operation with complete success. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] The Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command

The Zionist forces cordoned off the scene of the explosion and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of interrogation.

KUWAIT

Defense Minister Inspects Northeastern Border

LD131944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Kuwait, 13 Feb (KUNA) — This morning the defense minister, Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, inspected the forward positions at the northeast border accompanied by a number of commanders and officers.

PDRY

Chairman Al-'Attas Appoints Deputy Defense Minister

GF131453 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued a decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in which Article 1 stated the promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Haytham Qasim Tahir to the rank of colonel, while the rest of the articles stated that the decree will go into effect as of its date of issue and publication in the official gazette.

The chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium also issued a Supreme People's Council Presidium decree in which Article 1 appointed Col Haytham Qasim Tahir as first deputy defense minister and chief of the general staff. The rest of the articles stated the cancellation of any prior appointments to this post. They also stated that the decree will go into effect as of its date of issue and its publication in the official gazette.

Issues Loan Agreement Decrees

GF131303 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, has issued five decrees of the Supreme People's Council, ratifying five decrees of the Supreme People's Council Presidium for 1985.

In its first clause, the first decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 17 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for the project to expand and develop the Aden port between the PDRY and the Kuwaiti Arab economic development fund, which was signed in Kuwait on 22 May 1985.

The second clause ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 18 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for the contribution to the fourth road project between the PDRY and the International Development Institute [name as heard] which was signed in the state of Columbia in the United States [as heard] on 4 October 1985.

In its first clause, the third decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 19 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement to contribute to the development of the Aden port project between the PDRY and the Saudi Development Fund which was signed in Aden on 29 July 1985.

The fourth decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 20 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for contributing to the expansion and developing of Aden port between the PDRY and the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund, which was signed in Aden on 25 September 1985.

The fifth decree ratifies the decree of the Supreme People's Council Presidium No 21 for 1985 pertaining to the ratification of the loan agreement for contributing to the financing of the project of the (Al-Habilayn-Lab'uth)-al-Hadd road between the PDRY and Algeria, which was signed in Algiers on 23 September 1985.

The rest of the clauses state that the decrees mentioned in the first clauses of the decrees will have the power of law and will go into effect as of the date of their issue and be published in the official newspaper.

Receives Envoys to UK, UN

GF132056 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office today brother Salih 'Abdallah Muthanna, our country's ambassador to Britain, and brother 'Abdallah al-Ashtal, our country's permanent envoy to the United Nations.

During the meeting, Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas gave a detailed explanation on the bloody 13 January conspiracy which was arranged by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his clique. He was also briefed on the activities of our country's diplomatic corps in Britain and the United Nations and on the role which was played by each in clarifying and denouncing the serious dimensions of the conspiracy.

YSP Secretary General Holds Press Conference

GF131956 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, has affirmed that the YSP Political Bureau was concerned about solving differences with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his group through a democratic dialogue, through legitimate committees, and according to the central democratic principle.

He said: The Third YSP General Congress was held on this basis, but 'Ali Nasir Muhammad used to reject this and attempted to hinder the committees before and after the congress. He said: When we succeeded in convincing him to reactivate the committees, the result was his plotting of that despicable conspiracy which turned the meeting of the YSP Political Bureau into a bloody and barbaric massacre and drowned the country in a bloodbath.

Those statements were made during the press conference the brother secretary general held yesterday evening with a number of socialist countries' newspaper and news agency correspondents.

The secretary general said: 'Ali Nasir Muhammad was against internal democracy and did not adhere to the revolutionary principles which organize the party's domestic life. He used to refuse to resort to the domestic documents and statutes. He also used to ignore committees, hinder the implementation of resolutions, and spread financial corruption among the leadership circles in order to pave the way for his crazy desire for power and personal pleasures.

In his press conference, Brother Al-Bid clarified the core of difference with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his ambiguous method. He said that conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhamamd used to ignore the existence of class conflict in society and the effect of this conflict on the life of the party, and that he used to spread new colonialist concepts which propagate the solution of the so-called sectarian and tribal conflicts, instead of the class conflict, during the phase of the national democratic revolution. He pointed out 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's desire to agitate tribal disputes and to organize regional blocks in order to wipe out the class conflict and to weaken the unity of the party and the people. Brother al-Bid pointed out 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's desire to restore the anti-revolutionary force, the remnants of reactionary rightism, and opportunist leftism, and the political prisoners who are linked with the counterrevolutionary movement.

He said that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad relied on those forces and put them in the party and gave them significant positions in the civil and military organs of the state. He said: 'Alawi Husayn Farhan, one of the significant leaders of the conspiracy, admitted that a big part of the leaderships who fought in the residential streets were among those who were released from prisons or who returned from counterrevolutionary camps abroad. He said: A big number of armed elements also admitted to previous activities abroad which were hostile to the revolution, and that their return to the party and infiltration inside the military and security establishments were directly planned by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his conspiring aides. Some of those were found carrying military cards which prove they were members of counterrevolutionary camps, hostile to our progressive regime, before 1980.

Brother Al-Bid uncovered part of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's two-faced personality and his state of personal schizophrenia, and said that he was a political hypocrite who desired to show to the socialist countries and communist parties that the principled elements in the YSP Political Bureau were pan-Arab and reactionary elements who supported the Arab countries. He used to describe the principled elements who supported Arab countries and pan-Arab forces as Marxist and extremist elements who are hostile to pan-Arabism, peaceful living, and Arab solidarity.

He said: Thus, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad used to pretend before the socialist countries and communist parties that he was a defender of communism while he used to pretend before the Arab countries that he was a moderate and logical politician and a believer in pan-Arabism.

Brother Al-Bid said: Since he was a political hypocrite, his ugly, two-faced personality was unveiled and was thrown into the garbage bin of history — chased by the curses of the toiler masses and their denunciation of him for his immorality and his barbaric crimes against the party, the people, and the homeland. He will receive his just punishment sooner or later.

Concerning the PDRY's relations with Ethiopia, Brother Al-Bid said that they are strategic relations, affirming our party's determination to develop those relations in all fields. Brother Al-Bid said those relations exist between the two revolutions, countries, and peoples that are linked by bonds of struggle and joint fate and that those relations have nothing to do with persons. In this regard, Brother Al-Bid pointed out that a number of the heroes defending the Ethiopian revolution were martyred during 'Ali Nasir's barbaric massacres at the halls of the fake meetings, which civil and military party cadres were asked to attend on the morning of 13 January. He said: Also, a big number of those who participated in defending the Ethiopian revolution had a big role in confronting and foiling 'Ali Nasir's bloody conspiracy.

Foreign Minister Interviewed by Kuwait's AL-SIYASAH

GF140800 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 12 Feb 86 p 17

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, PDRY foreign minister, by Nabil Ghazzawi in Aden — date not given]

[Text] [Nabil Ghazzawi] Following the confidence voiced in you to assume the duties of the Foreign Ministry, will there be any important changes in the principles and bases of the foreign policy of your country on the party and state level?

['Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali] I would like to reaffirm, as my comrades have done before me, that there will be no changes in the principles or bases of our foreign policy now or in the future. This policy stems from the principles and the bases adopted by the YSP and are applicable to all party and state organizations. This policy is based on the principles of peaceful coexistence and security. We want to develop good relations and mutual cooperation with the neighboring, fraternal countries, the GCC states, and with other fraternal Arab and world countries. These relations are based on fraternal cooperation and efforts to consolidate security and stability in the region, noninterference in others' internal affairs, and reciprocal respect for national sovereignty. We will follow the path of the foreign policy that has been plotted by the party, and we will not change these principles now or in the future.

[Ghazzawi] Without doubt your foreign policy highly takes into consideration relations with the YAR, the neighboring GCC states, and the countries of the Horn of Africa. How do you evaluate the bases and the trends which formulate this policy with these countries?

[Al-Dali] First, we do not think that our relations with YAR come under foreign policy because we are one people and we consider it an internal Yemeni issue. Please spare me having to answer this question.

Without doubt, the GCC states are fraternal and neighboring countries. We have joint fraternal and historical bonds characterized by mutual cooperation and joint efforts to establish security and keep the region free from foreign intervention, reciprocal respect of national sovereignty, and noninterference in each others' internal affairs. We will work to develop these relations. We have already established advanced relations with Kuwait, the UAE, and the fraternal Sultanate of Oman. We are keen to develop relations with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Qatar. We are confident that we will succeed in the future in developing these relations to the betterment of the interests of our all peoples. Concerning the countries of the Horn of Africa, we are very keen to have relations of good neighborliness and noninterference, and to work to solve conflicts peacefully. We are confident of developing cooperation with these countries and to keep the region away from any circumstances that might undermine its security and stability.

[Ghazzawi] As is known, some socialist countries, including the USSR, are strong allies of your country and party. How do you view the future of your relations with these countries?

[Al-Dali] There is no doubt the USSR is a friend to our country. The YSP is linked to the CPSU through good relations. We hope that relations with the USSR will improve further and will lead to more cooperation. The USSR has extended much aid to us in all fields. Our respect for the USSR springs from its high eagerness for nonintervention in our internal affairs.

[Ghazzawi] Because your country adopts the policy of peaceful coexistence with different economic and social systems, how do you view the future of your relations with capitalist, nonaligned, and Muslim countries?

[Al-Dali] Out of our policy of peaceful coexistence, we welcome the establishment of relations with all countries which reciprocate our feelings. Our doors are not closed to countries if they intend to observe our national sovereignty. We have relations with other countries — whether they are capitalist, Muslim, or nonaligned countries — on the condition that these countries respect our policy and line. Our relations with Muslim countries will be strengthened because we are Muslim people. We will strengthen relations with the nonaligned countries because we are a member of the Nonaligned Movement.

Defense Minister Addresses Martyrs' Day Rally

GF131748 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A speech and military rally was held today on the occasion of the martyrs' day at the naval forces' command. The rally was attended by Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad, candidate member of the YSP Political Bureau and minister of defense; Lieutenant Colonel Husayn 'Ali Hasan, director of the Political Department of the Armed Forces; and a large crowd of members and officers of the Defense Ministry and the naval forces.

At the beginning of the rally, the audience observed 1 minute of silence for the souls of the martyrs. Later, Brother Colonel Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad spoke. He reviewed the tragic events witnessed by our party and people as a result of the futile coupist conspiracy carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his terrorist clique, which was designed against the best leaders of the party, the party's experienced cadres in the military and civil establishments, and against innocent sons of our people. He said that the 13 January events were not a coincidence but had class, ideological and political roots, and reasons which go back to the mid-1960s.

The defense minister pointed out that the detailed preparation of the plot by the disgraceful conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique, designed to liquidate the revolution from inside, reminded him of the methods used to deceive comrades and strugglers. They also reminded him of methods used to vary the party's leadership role in society and in the Armed Forces, and the concealed desire to turn the mass organization into ineffective organizations. This is in addition to the irresponsible measures designed to implement an economic policy which hindered the development plans and which limited the role of the public and cooperatives sectors in leading the national economy: extravagant expenses, weakening of economic relations with socialist countries, a desire to turn our society into a consumer society, the adoption of a demagogic non-class method in the ideological field, the propagation of concepts which ignore class struggle, and the distortion of the party's literature and documents and the struggle history of our Yemeni people.

The defense minister affirmed that our Armed Forces and other military establishments which remained loyal to the YSP at all times and which implemented the YSP's instructions proved once again that they have class strength in the hands of the party, despite what was arranged by the conspirators in the military and security establishments in order to deviate them from carrying out their main duty. The minister praised the great role played by the members of the party and by the fighters of the Armed Forces who played an honorable role next to other security establishments and the masses of people in ending the bloody coup attempt.

The minister called upon political leaders and committees, the party and youth organizations, and the fighters of the Armed Forces to work with the toilers of the country to reconstruct what was destroyed by the clique of conspiracy and sabotage and to work to raise the standard of combat readiness, and firm party and military discipline. He praised the role and support of the friendly Soviet Union, which stood with us in all phases of the struggle of our revolution and party, and the Soviet Union's principled stance which supports the march of the revolutionary process in our country. The minister affirmed that we will remain loyal to principled friendship with the Soviet Union and with the socialist countries and we will work to interpret the friendship and cooperation treaties which were signed with the socialist countries, the foremost of which is the friendly Soviet Union.

Speeches were also delivered on behalf of the naval forces' command, the Political Department, and the youth organization in the naval forces. The speeches affirmed determination to bolster the party's leadership prestige and to develop the activities and the work of the party primary organizations and to safeguard the purity of our party and the firmness of its strugglers. The speeches reaffirmed that the strugglers of the party and the fighters of the Armed Forces will work to bolster military discipline and combat readiness and to preserve arms and technical means.

A symbolic unit gathered at the monument field of the revolution's martyrs to place a wreath for the souls of the martyrs of the revolution, the homeland, and the party.

Foreign Minister Receives PLO Representative

GF140626 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0330 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister, has reiterated our country's firm stand in support of the Arab Palestinian people in their just struggle to regain their legitimate rights, to self-determination, and to set up their independent state on their national soil under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

This was stated by the minister during his meeting in his office yesterday with Brother 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden. He emphasized the need to strengthen the unity and cohesion of Palestinian revolution factions in order to face all imperialist-Zionist plots which aim to liquidate the Palestinian revolution and its gains. He also emphasized that the PDRY — party, government, and people — will continue to support the cause of the Arab Palestinian people in order to regain all their legitimate rights.

Zaki Received by Housing Minister

GF131338 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Brother Muhammad Ahmad Salman, member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of installations and housing, received in his office today brother 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in Aden.

During the meeting, relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions and the means to develop and bolster them were discussed.

Brother Salman described the nature and dimensions of the futile coupist conspiracy which was carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his fascist clique and on the material and human losses resulting from this conspiracy.

On his part, brother 'Abbas Zaki expressed his regret for the events of bloody 13 January and the regret of the Palestinian revolution with our Yemeni people. At the end of the meeting, the two sides expressed their satisfaction with the relations between the two peoples.

Denies Expulsion From Country

GF131535 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 13 Feb 86 pp 1, 17

[Text] Aden — 'Abbas Zaki, PLO representative in the PDRY, has denied reports that the new joint leadership in Yemen 2 days ago asked him to leave the country under the allegation that he intervened on the side of Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad during the events which took place there.

In a statement to *AL-KHALIJ*, 'Abbas Zaki affirmed that this report was utterly baseless and that he continues to perform his duties there with the same trust shown to him since he assumed his duties in Aden. He stated that relations with the PDRY are principled ones and based on the keenness of the organization to consolidate them with the Yemeni people, the YSP, and the state in the PDRY.

He said: Our role during the painful events was a humanitarian one and one of struggle, which has been admired by the brothers in Aden and appreciated by all the countries which we helped in saving their subjects.

'Abbas affirmed that such rumors which refer to any negative role of the PLO during the events are tendentious, aimed at insulting the historical relations which bind the Palestinian and Yemeni revolutions.

He said: We are the only community which remained in the PDRY during the events to assist in consolidating the security situation and to regain peace and stability throughout the country.

He added that he met with most officials of the joint leadership, such as Al-'Attas, Salim al-Bid, Al-Sabli, and al-Dali. He referred to the organization's keenness to enhance the historical relations between the two revolutions.

He said: We have solid interests. We feel the importance and the position of Yemen, and stemming from this view and mutual confidence, we are very keen to contribute to reducing the effects of this tragedy.

Text of AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I 'Ali Nasir Interview

GF131553 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I in Arabic 13 Feb 86 pp 10, 11

[Interview with PDRY "Chairman" 'Ali Nasir Muhammad by *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* correspondent al-Fatih al-Tijani in Addis Ababa — date not given]

[Text] The meeting took place with Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad somewhere in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, at his place of residence. The meeting began at 1200 and lasted until about 1700. During these 5 hours he discussed the background of the power dispute in the PDRY. He also revealed many secrets and asked not to have them published at present. He answered 31 questions and allowed us to publish only 25 answers.

He was wearing a yellow African suit. A number of YSP Central Committee members were with him. They left him one after the other when he began to talk for the first time since the start of the events in the PDRY. The dialogue follows.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the full story of the events that took place in the PDRY? What actually took place on 13 January 1986?

'Ali Nasir Muhammad: It was well known that a conspiratorial action was concocted and that it climaxed just before the convocation of the Third YSP Congress. The problem was postponed until after the convocation of the congress, when the separatists insisted on executing their ambition of controlling power and party. We exhausted all efforts to prevent them, to preserve the unity of the party, and to solve the disputed issues through dialogue in such a way that preserves the unity of the party and the people. It was evident that they were looking for an excuse to execute their plot. They escalated tension within the party and in the country. They placed their Armed Forces units on alert. They distributed large quantities of weapons to their supporters and introduced tension in the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau.

On 13 January 1986, tanks moved around the capital beginning at 0730. On 12 January they dispatched their gunmen in the houses and various quarters of the capital, Aden. A statement made by their leaders leaked, as 'Ali 'Antar said on 13 January, that 13 January is the decisive day. We also received confirmed information from the security organ about suspicious moves and a comprehensive preparation to execute the plot. From this premise, we decided to stop the plot and to arrest its mastermind. Clashes took place and resulted in the killing of some symbols of the plot. But their coupist plot was executed in accordance with the planning. The people and the militia confronted the coupist plot. Events then developed as you know.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: All the stories published give the impression that you started the fighting.

Muhammad: This is not true. I as well as the commander of the Armed Forces, were surprised to see the tanks in the streets of Aden at 0730 on 13 January 1986. When Colonel 'Abdallah 'Ali 'Ilaywah, deputy defense minister and chief of staff, asked why the tanks appeared at this early time of the day and with such huge quantities, he was told that they were on a training mission. When he asked that the tanks return to their bases in Salah al-Din camp, his orders were not executed, because in less than 1 hour the tanks spread over an area covering 40 km of the capital, Aden. The tanks took up positions in all the streets and strategic regions. That is why we tried to detain the leaders who concocted the plot before they continued the coupist plot. Clashes took place and resulted in the killing of some of them.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Is there evidence of this plot?

Muhammad: When our forces stormed the house of Defense Minister Salim Muslih, documents were found in a nylon bag there. These documents included a plan to assassinate me. The assassination was to be executed by a group of tanks that took up positions outside the Presidium building and my house so that they would blow up my car when I left the Presidium building for the YSP Central Committee headquarters to attend the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau, which was due to be held that day. These documents include the formation of the Presidium and the government as it is now formed after the conspirators lost some main leaders. It is strange that after our men took the documents to Tariq Camp and left the house, a military force loyal to Salih Muslih consisting of 90 men arrived at the house and wanted to defend it. Suddenly other forces belonging to the coupists came to the scene and believed that the force stationed in the house was loyal to us. So the latter force shelled the house and annihilated all members of the former force.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Why did you leave Aden during the first days of the events? It was said that this was a trick and that you were leaving for Moscow.

Muhammad: I was in Aden since the beginning of the events. Following the cut in communications, particularly with the outside world, I left for Abyan Governorate. I would like to answer your question by saying that there is no trick. My intention was actually to leave for Moscow as the Soviet leaders made a proposal — which we welcomed — calling on the YSP Political Bureau to hold a meeting in Moscow within the framework of the appreciated efforts of the Soviet Union to expedite attainment of conditions to a cease-fire and to start a dialogue. Yet the intransigence and refusal of the other sides prevented the [YSP Political Bureau's] departure for Moscow.

Al-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the state of internal politics?

Muhammad: The painful effects of the coupist attempt plotted by the adventurous divisionist group are still overwhelming the country and no fair observer can ignore the fact that the current situation in the PDRY is that of complete suffering. Many parts of our country are suffering from the afflictions of the devastation inflicted upon it by the tanks and armored vehicles and the barbaric and haphazard destruction with various heavy weapons of installations, public squares, people's residences, government institutions, and other aspects of life which our people had gradually built with sweat following the national independence.

Despite all the misleading and ridiculous attempts by the opposing forces alleging that they are controlling power in Aden, our people completely realize who has destroyed the country and who spread fear and dread among citizens. These citizens were not expecting for one minute that the guns, artillery, and tanks — which were supposed to defend their security and stability, protect their achievements, and enhance the progressive development of society — would be directed against them to destroy their houses and cities. History will register with shining script the wonderful heroism of not only the men and youth, but those of women who bravely participated in making the streets and suburbs of Aden a mass grave for tanks.

The citizens and strugglers of our party defended the most valuable achievements of the party and the revolution security, stability, and development and progress aspects. The resistance by the popular masses and their opposition to the coupists is still continuing in Aden — as I have already mentioned — and in various other parts of the country. The suffocating political crisis which is forcefully tightening its grip on the coupists in Aden is clearly reflected by the citizens. The deterioration of the internal political life is represented in the homelessness of 50,000 children, old people, and women who have been deprived of their houses which were destroyed through organized storming operations unprecedented in Aden.

Mass camps have been established for use as prisons for thousands of our people, party strugglers, and officers and soldiers of the Armed Forces, popular police, militia, and state security. They were arrested merely because they expressed — even though in simple terms — their dissatisfaction toward the fascist clique. We have confirmed information from Aden and various parts of the country that the Armed Forces are carrying out combing operations in residential areas, searching for more strugglers and citizens to be harassed individually or collectively in schools, fields, and various buildings in Aden and Lahij used as mass prisons.

Although I do not wish to paint a dreadful picture especially for our expatriates and all the citizens of the Arab nation, my duty is to point out the facts as they are. A large number of innocent people and party strugglers who were educated and nurtured by the party and people as experienced cadres loyal to their cause of progress and prosperity were executed in a barbarous manner. Their corpses were thrown onto streets witnessed by their families and relations who were unable to bury them because of the barbaric and indiscriminating shelling and the intensity of tank and heavy artillery fire. The devastating (Luna M) missiles were used. These missiles have not been used even in some organized wars between big armies, let alone against helpless people and their safe towns as was the case in Aden and Zinjibar.

I feel that it is my duty to convey to the Arab and international public opinion — despite the painfulness of the facts — that large numbers of party strugglers, people, and armed forces are still being subjected to barbarous physical and psychological torture. Other honorable citizens are being summarily tried without reference to any law or even our people's conventions, traditions, and moral values. Mass dismissals are being carried out against prominent leaders and citizens who have status and reputation within the party and among the people. Liquidation operations against party members continue in blatant contradiction to our party's internal policy and its practical principles and developed struggle traditions which have grown and consolidated through long years of struggle and sacrifice by our people and party.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: And on the military arena?

Muhammad: Inspite of all the misleading attempts of the opposing forces, there are still large areas of the country which they have so far failed to control. We still maintain military forces in the country. But I would like to affirm our keenness to avoid more destruction and act to reach a political solution to guarantee the unity of the people, homeland, party, and Armed Forces. It should be understood that the war of tanks or the government of tanks will be able to govern the Yemeni people and will not be able to last for long after this destruction.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: And on the Arab and international arena?

Muhammad: As you well know Arab and international public opinion have condemned these barbaric massacres commited by the coupist forces on 13 January 1986. Wide sectors of Arab and international public opinion have expressed their support for the constitutional and party legitimacy. That is why I now express my thanks and gratitude for all the countries, governments, democratic organizations and press and other internal and Arab public opinion and all the countries which support love, peace, and social progress.

Allow me to thank all the honest and national writers of the Arab national progressive press, including your splendid newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, for explaining the facts and the dimension of the conspiracy against our people and our progressive system and its support for our people and their legitimate leadership. All this represents real support for our heroic people to confront the crisis imposed on them by the coupist gang by iron, fire, and terrorism.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What is the political solution being proposed, or are you proposing to avoid a civil war in the PDRY?

Muhammad: According to my evaluation of the current situation in our country while answering a previous question, I reaffirm that we consider, as a first priority during the current situation, efforts to ensure that no more destruction and terrorism befall our peaceful people who are suffering a lot these days. We have expressed our keenness to achieve this goal since the beginning of the painful events. We have forwarded many solutions which we believe are still effective. These solutions include: ending killing, detention, torture, and making people homeless and jobless, and immediately ending the organized and nonorganized armed robbery of the state and people property. All this should coincide with the elimination of inspection posts and mass detention camps. Prior to that, all the fierce media campaigns which incite hatred and fighting among the songs of a unified people must be stopped. The tanks and all different types of heavy weapons must immediately be returned to the barracks. These are essential steps to conduct a dialogue in one of the three capitals: Sanaa, Moscow, or Addis Ababa. The solutions are:

First, to hold a complete session of the YSP Central Committee to review the developments and to judge who has been behind the recent events since 1984 and until now. Afterward the committee would elect a secretary general and a new Political Bureau.

Second, hold elections of the Supreme People's Council to elect the chairman of the Presidium and to form a new government.

Third, form a committee from the command of the Armed Forces and the other security organs to stop the continuation of the attacks, the violence, and the destruction.

Fourth, the elected constitutional and executive party organizations will carry out their duties until all the above is completed.

Fifth, a committee would be formed from the Soviet Union, the YAR, and Ethiopia to supervise and follow up these proposals in order to put the solutions into action for the interests of our people. All this is connected with the goals of the other side.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: In case these solutions and proposals are rejected, how do you conceive a solution?

Muhammad: This will lead to further division, schism, and disintegration of national unity in addition to a lack of security and stability. This will not be restricted to the PDRY. This will negatively affect security and stability in the region. Owing to our belief that there is actually a possibility to implement these solutions and proposals, we still hope that [all of us] will resort to logic and reason. We also hope that the language of dialogue will replace the language of tanks and guns for the service, for the good of our people, for their social progress, and for their aspirations for whose attainment convoys of martyrs and huge sacrifices were presented.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: To what extent can concessions be made in return for reaching a political solution to the issue?

Muhammad: All people of sound thinking will agree with me that the proposals we launched represent the minimum accepted limit to rescue our people, I suppose. That is why any talk about concessions means forfeiting the interests of our people, and of safeguarding, preserving, and ensuring the future of their progressive experience.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USUBU'I: You visited Sanaa, Damascus, Tripoli, and Algiers. What are the positions of these countries and the other Arab countries?

Muhammad: We made cordial visits to these countries. We were amiably received. We found in these Arab capitals complete understanding and solidarity to the explanation we made on the current situation in the PDRY. We express our sublime gratitude to the positions and the feelings of brotherly solidarity demonstrated by Brother Presidents 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Hafiz al-Asa, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, and Chadli Benjedid. In the course of our visits, we also held fraternal, warm, and amicable meetings with a number of brother leaders of Arab national liberation movement factions. Views were exchanged with them on the painful events of the PDRY. During these meetings the various Arab progressive and national organizations and parties whom we conferred with expressed their constant and principled support for the progressive struggle of our people and their regime. They also stressed backing for the legitimate leadership of the YSP and the state in the PDRY. It is worth reporting that brother presidents, together with leaders of the progressive and national Arab organizations and parties whom I met, expressed their readiness to exert further efforts to prevent further destruction and to terminate the excruciation, torture, and homelessness which our people currently suffer from.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What about the positions of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries?

Muhammad: There is no need to elaborate on the nature of the strong principled and strategic relations that link us with the friendly Soviet Union, and the other socialist countries and their fraternal parties. This matter is well known and we are proud of it. Out of this relationship, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries played an important role which is appreciated. This role was represented in the efforts to bring about a ceas- fire — since the very start of the events — and the repeated calls to hold dialogue. Such efforts always met with deliberate intransigence and no response from the separatist coupist forces as they were referred to by the recent statement issued by *PRAVDA*. This statement expressed unlimited support for the policy of our YSP. We laud the just internationalist positions which have continuously been adopted by the Soviet Union toward our country and people. We also laud, in particular, the keenness of the Soviet Union and the socialist bloc countries to prevent any foreign imperialist interference in the internal affairs of our people during the recent events and developments. The Soviet Union is a sincere friend of our people and revolution — as are all the peoples of our Arab nation — who strongly supports all their just and liberation issues. We firmly believe that the Soviet Union will always side with our people and our YSP. The struggle for the good and the progress of our people, in addition to rescuing them from their bitter ordeal, is closely associated with the firm principled alliance with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: There have been reports about a refusal to set a date fo the departure of your envoy Abu Bakr Ba Dhib, member of the YSP Political Bureau, to Moscow.

Muhammad: I would like to emphasize that nothing as such was turned down. The contacts are continuous through various firm channels. Continuous coordination and exchange of views is under way.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: It was reported that the forces opposed to you received weapons from the Soviet Union to make up for the losses sustained during the battles. How true are these reports?

Muhammad: In the melee of the events, fabricated reports were circulated. Part of the imperialist media and propaganda focused on defaming the Soviet Union's position toward the events in our country. Knowledgable people are aware of the goals behind this. Imperialists, particularly the United States, are looking for a cover and a justification for interference not only in our country but, as it is well known, it looks for other opportunities like this in various parts of our Arab world and the rest of the world. Replying to these false reports about the position of the Soviet Union toward this situation or other situations, I stress that the Soviet Union wanted us to attain a cease-fire since the very beginning and to reach a peaceful solution to the issue in addition to prevention of any imperialist foreign military interference in the internal affairs of our country and people. This position enjoys our support and fully coincides with our views.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: In case you resort again to fighting, will Aden become another "Afghanistan" particularly after the Soviet Union stopped the process of evacuating its nationals and began to bring back its experts?

Muhammad: I cannot find similarities between the situation in the PDRY and Afghanistan. I reiterate what I said earlier with regard to the stand of the Soviet Union toward the current situations.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: How is it that important units of the Armed Forces were not loyal to the legitimacy? Did you know about this, and why did you remain silent on this issue?

Muhammad: The time defined for this interview may not let me relate much of the details which constitute a necessary introduction to understanding what happened on and after 13 January. This can be attributed to the fact that all the presumptuous acts against the constitutional and party legitimacy, in addition to the execution of sabotage acts that harm the unity of the YSP, the Armed Forces, and the people, and the fanning of tribal, divisionist, and coalition grudges within the YSP and the society as a whole and other activities that were executed by YSP and state adventurous elements can be traced back many years. All activities we know and closely follow were confronted by the organs in charge of protecting constitutional and party legitimacy. We were always, out of unionist and positive spirit, keen to make the language of constructive criticism and dialogue prevail within the framework of the party and legitimate state institutions. On various occasions punitive measures were adopted against some of these divisionist and reactionary symbols to deter and correct them. Yet these elements continued to create trouble, fan differences, and violate rules and regulations which organize the internal life of the party and state. These elements resorted to various conspiratorial acts. Among these adventurous acts which contrdict the principles of the revolution, its traditions, and the rules of the party and the state is 'Ali Antar's exploitation — knowing that he is one of the basic symbols of the coupist attempt — of the party confidence when he was appointed defense minister. During the years 1978-1981 he liquidated a huge number of officers and even soldiers from the various military units under various justifications. He restructured the military units in an exposed tribal method. Despite the remarks made with regard to the gravity of this action and the continuous criticism from the party organs and the state, nothing deterred him from his acts. These acts gradually entrenched the spirit of division and schism within the society and the Armed Forces on retarded tribal bases. There was no other alternative but to remove 'Ali 'Antar from the Defense Ministry portfolio. Later, through the establishment of unprincipled and dishonorable alliances, he continued his destructive trend — this trend possessed him. Salih Muslih, who was later appointed defense minister, cooperated with him for inflicting further destruction of the Armed Forces units. Although many forces — such as the air force, the naval force and other brigades in various regions in the country — remained loyal to the YSP and to the legitimacy and remained imperious to clandestine and organized tribal infiltration led by the coupist leaders, they [the plotters] succeeded in a conspiratorial way in liquidating a number of the military commanders on tribal bases. They also succeeded in transfering and consolidating the schism within the ranks of the Armed Forces. They also directed their efforts to convert the Armed Forces from a national institution — whose role is to defend the sovereignty of the country and its independence, and to protect the progressive regime in addition to the economic and social achievements of the people — to an institution in which some units are plagued with tribal spirit and division. They also succeeded in introducing some tribal elements in some units, such as the armored units, realizing that through their conspiratorial spirit the importance of this force is that it is a force that can be aimed at the revolution and the citizens instead of defending them. Thus, they moved from the point of threatening to use force to the point of executing their vile plot on 13 January 1986. What I am interested in pointing out is that most of the Armed Forces' units stood — as they are still standing — by the legitimate leadership. That is why I am confident that there is no future for tribal affiliations in the Armed Forces and in our society, which will eliminate this disease — such a disease that contravenes all the cultural, progressive, and noble values which took root through the years in the conscience of tens of thousands of party, state, and Armed Forces' strugglers in addition to all of society.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Currently, you are preparing to hold the meetings of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee. Can you give us an idea as to the number of members of the Political Bureau and the Central Committee who support the legitimacy?

Muhammad: Long before the events, it was known and affirmed both inside and outside our party that the majority of members of the YSP Central Committee — the highest leadership body of our party — supports the correct trend of the party which has applied and defended the safe and correct internal policies which have resulted in many achievements well known to our people. This trend is also based on the peaceful and constructive foreign policy followed and defended by the party. The party defended the security of this policy which embodies the party and constitutional legitimacy and which has contributed much toward bolstering the pillars of mutual trust among the countries and peoples of our region. This policy has also contributed toward consolidating peace and preventing anxiety, instability, and the danger of war in the region's countries and for its people.

This correct policy has been widely and extensively supported by the party, government organs, popular organizations, all the people, and the friends of our people and their preogressive experiment. The tangible and solid proof for the legitimate leadership's enjoyment of a majority in the leadership organs of the party and government is that the divisionist clique has resorted to grouping and conspiratorial work outside the legitimate organs. They have resorted to causing confusion, instigating backward disputes, and using the remnants of the social relations inherited from the era of the colonialists. They have used these methods as poisonous weapons against the legitimacy and the party and state laws. Perhaps I should mention another example proving that the leadership majority supports and rejects the legitimacy [as published]. The majority is the legitimacy itself and consists of the shaky formations of the assumed leadership bodies which have been recently established by the coupist group in Aden. Through simple calculations and because we know the names of the real cadres who are members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee and the Council of Ministers and who have been denuded of their positions — or who have not been named, but confirmed reports say that either they have been executed or are being imprisoned and tortured or are under house arrest — we can easily realize that the bodies established by the clique do not represent the national unity, party unity, and unity of the people.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: We offer our condolences for the loss of your son Jamal. It has been said that other members of your family were killed. How did that happen?

Muhammad: The fate of my son Jamal and that of any member of my family is the same as the fate of the thousands of our people and our honorable party strugglers and cadres who sacrificed their lives defending the revolution. I feel boundlessly proud for the modest contributions made by me and my family — just like the rest of the citizens and families — toward the protection of the supreme interests of our great people and their glorious revolution.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Salim Salih al-Bid has urged the YAR Government to disarm you. What is your comment on that?

Muhammad: Such a request is meaningless if we realize that we do not possess any weapons in the northern part of the homeland. All our strugglers and their weapons are in the PDRY. We still have out forces and arms in locations within the PDRY, including its governorates. The brothers in Aden know that.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Do you believe the situation between the northern and southern part of Yemen could explode?

Muhammad: I have discussed earlier the trends and policies we have been solidifying over the years and our responsibilities toward relations with the northern part of the homeland. Even the shy statements of some elements of this swaying clique could not deny or cast doubt on our role to consolidate this. It is an achievement which we do not hide. We are always proud of it. Therefore, without hesitation, our role is to confront any explosion of the relations between the two parts of the homeland whatever the reasons or the pretexts. In this regard, and according to our knowledge of many facts — which are not suitable to disclose now — we would say that time will reveal the falseness of these allegations on their keenness to establish correct and solid relations between the two parts of the homeland.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: Do you expect the crisis to spread throughout the PDRY in the event of new fighting?

Muhammad: We do not expect such a thing. We act in such a way that all the efforts of the brothers and friends would come together to stop the occurence of such a situation.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: What are the possibilities of foreign intervention?

Muhammad: The foreign imperialist reactionary intervention in our internal affairs will be met with fierce resistence by our masses and our party. We believe that what happened in our country is purely an internal issue concerning only the Yemeni people and its YSP. We are totally confident that our allies, our friends, our revolution, and our people will not stand by helpless if there are any forms of intervention by the imperialist powers. We have unlimited confidence in the capability of our people and our party to struggle for the cause of the people, the homeland, the party, and the issue of maintaining and developing the great and prominent accomplishments of the glorious 14 October Revolution.

We are very optimistic that the night of terror and barbaric torture will not remain for long, and that our people are experienced enough in the struggle and have revolutionary expertise and believe in its just cause. All this justifies our confidence in our ability to win.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: It has been said that you have met with Muhammad 'Ali Haytham and Husayn 'Alshal, members of the national group abroad to coordinate your efforts. Is this true?

Muhammad: They are trying to circulate such rumors to distort the reputation of the party before mine. We are the ones who dismissed such people from authority after being ousted by the masses. Such people will never have a chance to stand up again. We will not extend our hands to them, because our power lies in the YSP and the Yemeni people.

Do you know that the first attempt to assassinate me in my office took place on 22 May 1972, and was plotted by Muhammad 'Ali Haytham, who sent a well-known struggler of our party to my office and whom I met warmly and seated in my office. At that moment the telephone rang and when I stood up to answer it he shot me in the stomach.

AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I: How do you explain the presence of the great number of tanks which attacked the Governorate of Abyan, especially when most of the tanks of the Armed Forces were destroyed?

Muhammad: Our information affirms that they have withdrawn all weapons stationed at the border which were deployed there at a certain time to defend the homeland. They have mobilized all their loyal forces and sent them to Aden.

UAE

Denmark's Charge D'Affaires Asked to Leave

AU141225 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Copenhagen, Feb 14 (AFP) — The Danish charge d'affaires in Abu Dhabi, Erik Svenningsen, was declared persona non grata by the United Arab Emirates late last month, with no explanation, officials said today.

The Danish Foreign Ministry was unable to find out why Mr Svenningsen, who had been in the Emirates since 1981, was asked to leave. Countries are not obliged to give a reason when expelling a diplomat.

Sources said the ministry here was not investigating the incident.

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo, Met by Al-Majid

NC131440 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo from Baghdad this afternoon on a visit that will last several days. He was met at the airport by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first undersecretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs. A number of PLO officials in Cairo were also on hand at the airport to receive 'Arafat.

In a statement upon his arrival, 'Arafat said that he is happy to visit Egypt. He asserted that he has come with an open heart to discuss everything that concerns the Palestinian revolution and people — their circumstances, problems, pains, and victories.

'Arafat stated that he was in Baghdad for 3 days, during which he met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who gave him complete assurance on the military situation. He added that Iraq is confronting the huge Iranian offensive.

'Arafat said that he had informed the Iraqi president of the Palestinian people's support for the Iraqi Army and people against this attack because any aggression against Iraq is considered to be aggression against a part of the Arab nation.

Answering a question on the U.S. proposals on the Middle East issue, 'Arafat affirmed that he will discuss them with President Husni Mubarak.

Asked about the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, 'Arafat replied that they were suspended because of the U.S. intransigence and bias favoring Israel, which denies that 5 million Palestinians have the right to exist. In the UN Security Council, the United States used the veto three times in one month to protect Israel.

Answering a question on the PLO view of the call for an international conference and on whether he expects it to be held soon, 'Arafat said that this depends on the international situation. 'Arafat's final comment was that his talks with President Mubarak will begin this evening.

Meets With Mubarak

NC131548 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat this evening. The meeting took place at President Mubarak's office in Al-'Urubah Palace.

Mubarak Comments on Meeting

NC131720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1658 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has declared that the U.S. State Department comment made on Monday is encouraging and "we must study it to see what can be done."

In a statement after his meeting with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, President Mubarak added that the U.S. remark is a good step forward, but we must discuss it.

President Mubarak indicated that in his 30-minute meeting with 'Arafat they reviewed current events. The president said that he will meet with 'Arafat again on Saturday evening.

Following the meeting, 'Arafat was asked what he expects from his visit to Cairo. He replied: "I expect it to be completely constructive."

Saudi Prince Proposes Fahd-Mubarak Meeting

NC121640 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 12 Feb (MENA) — Saudi Prince Turki ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, a brother of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, has declared that Egyptian-Saudi relations are a strategic necessity for the security of the two countries. They are also necessary for a balanced relationship in the Arab world. The prince notes that there is no one in Saudi Arabia who does not wish to see Arab solidarity quickly restored, and adds that Arab solidarity without Egypt is meaningless and inconsequential.

In an interview to be published in the 14 February edition of the magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, Prince Turki says that for the sake of Arab interests, there is no alternative but for King Fahd and President Husni Mubarak to meet in the very near future, because matters cannot be postponed any longer. He adds that if things remain as they are now, the Arab world will only reap total chaos, which will devour everything.

Prince Turki further says that if U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev were able to set aside their ideological differences and sit down face to face for the sake of U.S.-Soviet interests, then Arab leaders should be able to meet to settle their differences.

On the nature of his visit to Egypt, Prince Turki explains that it is a private visit but does have its purpose. He says that President Mubarak received him and that they discussed the Arab situation and Egyptian-Saudi relations. Prince Turki indicates that King Fahd knows of the mission and the visit, and has given his blessing.

Prime Minister Lutfi Returns From London

NC132009 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi returned to Cairo tonight, following medical treatment in London. He was met at the airport by ministers and senior state officials.

Gabonese State Minister Leaves for Home

NC131103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, left Cairo this morning to return home after a 4-day visit here. In a predeparture statement, the Gabonese minister said that he was pleased to have met President Mubarak, to whom he had delivered a message from Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Martin Bongo also praised Egypt's drive for peace in the Middle East and its supportive stands on African issues. Finally, he stated that a mutual desire to further bilateral cooperation was evident throughout his talks in Cairo.

Sudan Party Official on Mubarak Meeting, Federation

NC131825 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1650 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad, member of the Sudanese Unionist Democratic Party Executive Bureau, has called for the consolidation of Egyptian-Sudanese unity in accordance with a formula acceptable to the two peoples.

Speaking at a press conference in Cairo today, Dr Ahmad Al-Sayyid Ahmad said that his party favors a federation between Egypt and Sudan to fulfill the two peoples' aspirations. He added that right from the outset his party has believed that the integration process between the two peoples is the first step in the long march toward unity because [words indistinct] the two peoples' aspirations and history. He pointed out that his party wanted integration to concentrate on economic action, production, and investment and felt that Egyptian and Sudanese citizens should be made to see the value of this process so that they could embark on joint economic action. However, integration has failed to achieve this so far, he said. He noted that there are 340 million feddans in Sudan that have not yet been exploited. They could be an important source for all sorts of crops, such as wheat, cotton, sugarcane, fruits, etc.

Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad stressed that in his meeting with President Husni Mubarak, the latter had said he shared his view that Sudan's problems were Egypt's own in view of the eternal ties between the two peoples of the Nile Valley, their strategic ties, and their common hopes and suffering.

He added that his party's program seeks to strengthen and consolidate Egyptian-Sudanese relations so as to unite the Nile Valley, which is the natural starting point for overall Arab unity and the center for solving the Palestinian problem under PLO leadership.

He said that his party is the product of a merger between the People's Democratic Party and the Unionist Democratic Party led by Al-Sharif Zayn al-'Ab Idin al-Hindi. The merger took place on 19 January. He said he was pleased to see partisan unanimity in Egypt concerning the basis for unity of the Nile Valley.

It is recalled that Dr Ahmad al-Sayyid Ahmad is visiting Egypt at the head of a party delegation. He was received by President Husni Mubarak yesterday [as received] and has also met with Egyptian officials and party leaders.

Sudan's Siwar al-Dhahab on Relations With Egypt

NC122143 Cairo MENA in English 1922 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb 12 (MENA) — Chairman of the Transitional Military Council General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab today underlined the deep Egyptian-Sudanese relations and referred to cooperation between the two countries in various fields.

In a statement to the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY (MENA), General Siwar al-Dhahab said that elections in the Sudan would be held on time and that the Transitional Military Council and the government would do their best so that the elections might be held in an atmosphere of security.

Stressing the Sudan's adherence to the democratic approach, Siwar al-Dhahab said, "We are keen that the Sudan will be a model in applying democracy despite the difficulties it is facing represented in the problem of economic situation and the constant flow of refugees."

The chairman of the Military council said there are contacts with John Garang, chairman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Sudan, to partake in the national reconciliation conference and agree upon a final ceasefire in the south. "The outcome of these contacts has not been known so far," he said.

He pointed out that new president of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, had expressed his readiness to mediate with Garang by virtue of the deep-rooted friendship binding Museveni with Garang.

22 Government Officials Involved in Bribery Case

NC131959 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — Counselor Muhammad 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jundi, the Egyptian public prosecutor, has disclosed that 22 senior officials in the Ministry of Industry have been involved in accepting bribes totalling 5.5 million pounds from a West German firm. In exchange, the officials were to award the company the contract for the construction of a paper mill in the city of Qus in Qina Province, Upper Egypt. In addition to the German company, three other companies — Canadian, Japanese, and French — had submitted bids.

The public prosecutor said at a news conference today that he has ordered the imprisonment of 12 of these senior officials and the arrest of the other 10 for interrogation in connection with two charges, bribery and deliberate misuse of public funds, now that the public funds investigation department discovered irregularities in the process of awarding the contract for the construction of this mill.

The public prosecutor explained that the German company, through its agent or representative, a German national, and through its other agent, an Egyptian, had offered bribes, the equivalent of 5.5 million Egyptian pounds in German marks, to the members of the bids committee who were responsible for the project. These committee members include the first undersecretary of the Ministry of Industry and the deputy chairman of the industrialization organization, who chaired the committee dealing with the bids. The latter was pensioned off last Friday after reaching the legal retirement age, but had been asked to stay on until the construction of the mill was completed.

The public prosecutor said that this official was found in possession of a contract making him a consultant to the German company for a fee of 500,000 marks a year in exchange for approving the company's bid.

Counselor Muhammad ‘Abd al-‘Aziz al-Jundi said that the principal defendants under investigation are the chairmen of the boards of directors of two Egyptian companies — a chemicals firm and a food company — in addition to senior officials in Egypt's General Industrialization Organization sitting in the committee that deals with bids.

The public prosecutor noted that a number of the defendants were caught with the German company's representative at the latter's room in an Egyptian hotel. They were there to discuss how to divide up the bribes. The German company's representative was found to be in possession of a list with the names of the defendants and the amount of the bribe to each.

As part of the anti-corruption campaign in Egypt, the public prosecutor today ordered the seizure of the property of Dr Mustafa Al-Sa‘id, former Egyptian Economy Minister; Rif‘at al-Bashir, former undersecretary of the Ministry; and ‘Abd al-Khaliq al-Mahjub, former ministry expert. He also ordered seized the property of their wives and minor children, which means that they cannot administer the property or dispose of it.

The public prosecutor also decided to bar Dr Mustafa al-Sa‘id from travelling abroad until investigations in the case of funds seized from currency traders in Egypt are completed. Dr Rif‘at al-Bashir and ‘Abd al-Khaliq al-Mahjub are currently serving a 10-year prison term after conviction by an Egyptian court of taking bribes in a case involving the repayment of funds to currency traders. They were also fined 10,000 Egyptian pounds each.

Concluding his news conference, the public prosecutor stressed that the state is intent on fighting corruption and all forms of deviation whoever the wrongdoers are. He said that the Egyptian security services are doing their duty in this respect in cooperation with the Public Prosecutor's Office, which wants to see justice served. The public prosecutor noted that in the last 2 months he has handled 700 cases involving the misuse of public funds.

Petroleum Authority Announces Oil Price Reductions

NC131133 Cairo MENA in English 1030 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — The general Egyptian authority for petroleum today announced prices of Egyptian crude oil exports in February.

Price of the Suez gulf crude dropped to 19 dollars per barrel from 22 dollars and 20 cents in the first half of January last while Bala‘im crude fell to 18 dollars per barrel from 21 dollars and 50 cents.

The Ra's Badran crude went down to 17 dollars and 80 cents per barrel from 21 dollars and 20 cents and Ra's Gharib crude oil price plummeted to 16 dollars and 50 cents from 19 dollars and 30 cents.

Minister of Petroleum ‘Abd al-Hadi Qandil had announced on February 7 that Egypt reduced its crude oil production last month.

AL-AHRAM Warns Against Abusing Democracy

PM121637 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 9 Feb 86 p 7

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah "Significance of Events" column: "Pains of Democratic Change"]

[Excerpts] The experiment with democratic change in Egypt is facing a crisis recognized by everybody; it is recognized by the opposition parties as well as by the majority [NDP] party. It is also felt by public opinion, a feeling mixed with great anxiety that the crisis might reach a point at which it will be difficult to resolve. The public sensed this feeling of anxiety in President Mubarak's warning when he pointed out the horrible and serious consequences that he fears might result if the practise of party politics is not put in the right context. But the public did not understand this as a threat to abandon democracy and return to to the previous state of affairs, although certain partisan forces wanted to understand it this way. Rather it was understood as a general invitation to all the political parties and forces eager for the experiment to succeed to abandon the practices that have created an atmosphere of tension and emotion so as to spare the process of democratic change a serious setback if things go out of control.

Speaking objectively, it can be said that the serious consequences of the failure of any democratic experiment in a developing country like Egypt are a likelihood. We see this happening in many countries and to many democratic experiments. It is not because the rulers in those countries want this to happen but because the political forces have been unable to reconcile the ability of the political and social system to bear the pressure of crises and mistakes with how far these forces can go on escalating and aggravating problems, creating difficulties and exaggerating them, calling for rapid changes and reforms, and even seeking to assume power under the pretext that they are capable of solving many of the problems and crises. Aiming for such objectives and indulging in such practices within reason and in societies that are democratically, socially, and economically stable cannot lead to serious consequences or pose a threat to democracy. More often than not, they help to achieve the desired reform or change in certain wrong policies or even cause a rift within the ruling party from which the opposition could benefit in order to strengthen itself preparatory to taking power.

This is what could happen in a stable democracy, but the fact that we all seem to forget is that Egypt is still in the early beginnings of sound democratic change. If we do not keep this change to its correct path and straighten out its course, it will lead us to the same liberal democratic experiment that prevailed before the revolution, with all its faults and mistakes and with the same practices that led to its failure.

It is true that five of the six political parties were established after the revolution and none of them existed previously either in form or in leadership. Yet, we cannot deny the fact that there is a political heritage of tradition and practices just as there is continuity in the political and popular background against which these parties operate, to the extent that it would sometimes seem to the objective observer as if the revolutionary era, which many think has dug and tilled the soil of political society and resown it, has done no more than remove the surface of the political soil that had become fallow and infertile without replacing it with a more fertile, growth-giving soil.

Therefore, the fears regarding the consequences that we are warning against are justified when we observe the emergence of the same faults and shortcomings that existed in party politics before the revolution. The party system in its proper sense is almost completely lacking in most of the current Egyptian parties, including the NDP, which enjoys great support and stability. All these parties without exception are characterized by individualism that makes a party more a "coterie" that is not governed by one single or harmonious political course or thought but bound together by transient intermingled interests. The setting up of parties is still being done from top to bottom and party cadres are chosen in accordance with criteria that are far from sound political party criteria. This is in addition to the absence of free election in the selection of these cadres at all levels.

The fact is that the rate of illiteracy and the level of economic backwardness have not changed much from before but have remained and are having the same effect they had before the revolution. Although we may admit that there is some improvement in the rate of illiteracy and a slight change in the distribution of wealth, we are still facing the same irrational political behavior and the resort by party powers to the use of family influence, economic influence, or even government bureaucratic influence to enhance their power.

The conclusion we reach here is that the tree of democracy, under whose shade we live in Egypt, is still small, weak, has few branches, and its roots are still close to the surface. It is so easy to be uprooted by storms and crises. The problem does not lie only in storms and dangers that are blowing on it from abroad and which one cannot fail to see, but also in the weakness of the Egyptian soil caused by political vicissitudes. It also lies in the economic environment that, in the past years, suffered from the sequence of changes from open-door and closed-door experiments.

The current democratic experiment in Egypt is suffering from nay shortcomings. It may be claimed that the real political forces are not fairly or properly represented in the People's Assembly. It may be said democratic reform is in dire need of constitutional reform and reform of election laws so as to ensure greater freedom and the abolition of the remaining exceptional laws. But all this does not justify the attempts to settle old scores at the expense of the new conditions nor does it justify inflaming crises and starting fires with the aim of destroying the society from within, or claiming the ability to provide solutions for all our complex problems and the more complex Arab problems.

We do not think that the present crisis, which the opposition newspapers and writers have inflamed and which prompted President Mubarak to issue several warnings, can be overcome merely through resorting to political palliatives or by forgetting it or by watering it down. Overcoming this crisis and whatever crises might arise in the future calls for considering once again the proposals already put forward regarding the need to agree on a national action plan or a national front in which the parties can agree on defining the objectives of this stage and lay down fundamental lines for it in order to protect the democratic experiment and ensure its continuity, progress, and growth.

The empty slogan that says that democracy is an option from which there will be no change is not true because the experiments of nations and the history of peoples prove quite the contrary. Democracy, in the final analysis, remains a dynamic process that is likely to grow and flourish and, by the same token, it is likely to shrivel and break. This does not depend on the will of one single individual or a group of people but on the will of the whole nation.

NDP Expresses Support for Iraqi People

NC131734 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1645 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cairo, 13 Feb (MENA) — The NDP Secretariat General has declared its solidarity with and support for the Iraqi people in their struggle to safeguard their territorial integrity and to unite their national soil. In a statement issued today, the Secretariat denounced the new Iranian offensive against Iraq and called on the Islamic, nonaligned, and peace-loving states, and international organizations and agencies to do their utmost to end the fighting with negotiations, dialogue, and concilitation.

Program on Media Cooperation With Jordan Signed

NC131544 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Egypt and Jordan signed an executive program for media cooperation this morning. Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Muhammad al-Khatib, his Jordanian counterpart, signed the program.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

Naval Attacks Reported

JN141043 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1020 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces are continuing to deal destructive blows to enemy forces on land, at sea, and in the air. Contributing to destroying the enemy and defeating it in all fields, our brave naval forces carried out the following operations:

1. At 2245 [1945 GMT] yesterday our naval forces directed a destructive blow to a command ship in the Kowr-e Musa area. The ship exploded and was sunk in Arab Gulf waters.

2. At 2355 yesterday a blow was dealt to a gunboat near the Khowr-e Musa area. It sank immediately.

3. At 0155 today our naval forces dealt another destructive strike to another gunboat situated in the Nowruz oil field. It sank immediately.

Our heroic naval forces continue to spread their control over the northern Arab Gulf waters and are continuing to give good support for our land forces, which are continuing to advance toward areas where the enemy is present.

God bless the strong men of the navy. We thank God for his support.

[Dated] 14 February 1986

Forces Reported 'Advancing'

JN131534 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1521 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 13 Feb (INA) — The INA team in the southern sector has said that the Iraqi forces are advancing in various directions against the Iranian forces which crossed the Shatt al-'Arab waterway in the VII Army Corps sector. The team added that the Iraqi advancement is aimed at fragmenting and annihilating all the Iranian forces in the area. Military commanders have described the battles raging in this sector as epics in which the Iraqi forces are fighting with great heroism.

'Panic' Reported Among Iranian Forces

JN141024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Basra, 14 Feb (INA) — The INA mission at the front says that Iraqi forces are continuing to advance to destroy Iranian units. The mission said that Iraqi firepower is striking at the Iranian forces that crossed Shatt al-'Arab, north of the Arab Gulf. The mission affirmed that bodies of Iranian troops are covering the battlefield. Military equipment has monitored Iranian SOS calls, showing panic among the Iranian remnant forces.

Communique No 2,115 Issued

JN131830 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,115 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 13 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Through their heroic performance during these days, the humiliating defeats that they have inflicted and will inflict and the heavy losses that they have made the despotic, suspect, and covetous clique sustain, our valiant Armed Forces, thanks to their boundless capabilities which have enabled the Iraqis to safeguard the soil of the homeland and to record the most brilliant pages in the annals of our nation's modern history, confirm the true mettle of the new Iraqi individual and express the Iraqi individual's legitimate aspirations and his deep-rooted affiliation to a noble nation, a rejuvenating civilization, and a glorious past.

O Iraqis, victory has been settled in your consciences and minds since the beginning of the aggression. It is being settled on the ground during these glorious days. Your forces are standing fast in the face of desperate offensives by the frustrated enemy and are transforming them into tragedies. While doing so, your Armed Forces pursue their activities in terms of counteroffensives and interceptions. Your enemy is sustaining heavy losses in both cases, losses which will shake his regime and sweep it away. The land will remain yours and the road to victory will continue to be your lot. Glory and victory will always be yours because you have right on your side.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The frustrated enemy carried out a series of desperate attempts to lift the siege from his forces which are between our forces and the coast. Our valiant men, in a unique act of heroism, succeeded in foiling all the enemy's attempts. All the troops which tried to approach our positions have been wiped out, while our artillery poured fierce fire on the narrow corner in which the enemy has been besieged. After exhausting the enemy forces last night and inflicting huge losses on them, which the enemy failed to evacuate, our forces continued to advance on several axes this morning, intensively backed by the eagles of the air, the helicopter gunship knights, and the brave men of our artillery.

Our forces succeeded in reaching the targets which had been set for them with great efficiency, setting the ground on fire, and forcing the enemy to retreat and reduce its front in various directions. Our forces also placed the enemy in a desperate and constricting position. The enemy forces sustained bitter losses all last night and today, losses which the Khomeyniites have not witnessed in the past in spite of the many defeats they have sustained and the many losses they have suffered. The situation has completely changed in favor of our forces and the enemies have nothing else to do but wait for the moment of total collapse, God willing.

2. Our giant Air Force continues to sow certain death among enemy remnants and to destroy enemy positions, weapons, and military hardware. The eagles of the air, while dealing crushing

blows to enemy forces in the battlefield, do not forget the enemy's vital targets or military installations. Since dawn today and up to the issuance of this communique, the brave eagles of the air carried out the following heroic missions:

a. Our planes made 416 air raids against enemy troop concentrations, reaping the corrupt heads with their missiles all through today and wreaking destruction on any troop concentrations the Khomeyniites have assembled for committing aggression against the land of principles.

b. At 1032 [0732 GMT] today, our planes carried out a devastating raid on Khark Island, setting their targets ablaze.

c. At 1230 [0930 GMT] today, several of our planes raided Ahvaz airport, pounding the remainder of the Iranian Air Force and the Iranian helicopters and destroying airport facilities.

d. At 1303 [1003 GMT] today, our planes raided the Ganaveh pipeline intersection, hitting their targets and setting them ablaze.

e. At 1355 [1055 GMT] today, two enemy helicopters were sighted in the skies over the Arab Gulf. Our heroic eagles intercepted them and pounced on them with their missiles. Our eagles shot them down and they were engulfed in the waters of our Arab Gulf.

After carrying out all these missions, our brave eagles safely returned with their planes to the homeland crowned with laurels of victory.

3. The brave men of our naval forces have excelled all through last night and today. An enemy force, using nine boats, tried to attack the Al-Bakr and Al-'Amiq ports. Our heroic men of the force which is entrusted with the defense of the two ports, backed by our gunboats and the Navy's air force, sunk seven of the nine boats with the enemy personnel they were carrying. Other enemy elements were captured while the other two boats fled. Blessed be the men of our heroic force in the Al-Bakr and Al-'Amiq ports.

At 1032 [0732 GMT] today, the men of our navy shot down an enemy plan, an F-4, which crashed in flames and whose debris fell on the Shatt al-'Arab banks near Abadan port.

4. The helicopter gunship knights have had their share of Khomeyniite heads. They continued to pound enemy troop concentrations, weapons, and military hardware in the VII Army Corps sector with their missiles all through today, offering the best support for our ground forces which were continuing to put pressure on enemy forces. Our helicopter gunship knights carried out 284 combat sorties, during which they achieved the following:

a. At 1600 [1300 MGT] today they succeeded in shooting down an enemy Cobra helicopter. With this, the total number of enemy aircraft shot down today is four planes, one fighter plane, and three helicopters.

b. Twelve large vehicles were destroyed.

c. One enemy personnel carrier was destroyed.

d. Two four-barrel machineguns were destroyed.

e. One antiaircraft gun was destroyed.

f. Several enemy boats were destroyed.

g. Several enemy troop concentrations were destroyed.

5. Confirmed enemy losses in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah following the crushing of the enemy offensive on the night before last are as follows:

a. Seven hundred and sixty five enemy troops killed.

b. Three enemy troop concentrations wiped out.

c. Many enemy elements captured.

d. Two tank carriers destroyed, one carrying a self-propelled gun and the second carrying a tracked vehicle.

3. Seven boats destroyed.

f. Seven ammunition dumps destroyed.

G. The following serviceable weapons were captured: tanks, 18 (GC) rifles, 7 RPG-7 guns, 1 (BKC) machinegun, and other military hardware of various types.

6. The criminal enemy shelled civilian areas in the Abu al-Khasib district with long-range artillery, damaging 26 houses and 1 civilian car.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 13 February 1986

Communique No 2,116 Issued

JN140909 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0814 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Communique No 2,116 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 14 February 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O birds of prey, follow us to the battlefield. O Zealous sons of Iraq, your capability has been manifested. Time is revealing your true character. The determination of our men appears whenever our enemies indulge in evil.

We have often told the ignorant, suspect Iranian rulers that they will reap only bitter defeats and will meet only with death that will wipe thousands upon thousands of them. The land of the two rivers has always been a burial ground for all wicked aggressors. Our people have remained and will always remain fighting with one hand and planting with the other. The Iraqis' conviction, pride, honor, and glory will remain and their life will be free and dignified because they defend right, seek virtue and honor, and build and fight for the sake of God and man.

O glorious Iraqis, while our forces in the VII Army Corps are aborting all enemy attempts to find a way out of its impasse; while our forces are day and night continuing to cut off the heads of the aggressors in an unprecedented manner throughout history, advancing to liberate the land and tightening their grip on the enemy forces; and as an expression of our overwhelming superiority, the forces of the heroic III Army Corps led by Staff Major General Mahir 'Abd al-Rashid, assisted by Al-Husayn Forces under Staff Brigadier General Yalshin 'Umar 'Adil and the brave 109th Formation under the command of Staff Colonel Sahib Muhammad 'Allawh and the 49th Formation under the command of Staff Colonel Sami 'Abbas Mijwil, have carried out the will of the brave men. They launched a resolute, lighting attack on positions previously occupied by the enemy in the southern Majnun oil field. Our brave forces completely wiped out enemy forces along several kilometers in these positions. All enemy equipment, weapons, and supplies were captured. The enemy's presence was annihiliated. The Khomeyniites howled. They leveled abuse at each other, cursing Khomeyni and his regime for involving them in aggression against Iraq.

Our forces immediately consolidated their new liberated positions. The situation was finally and completely settled in favor of our victorious forces.

God bless the men of the III Army Corps —commanders, officers, and other ranks. God is great! God is great! God is great! O God, You have given us grace of victory. Give us further victories. You are a generous giver.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 February 1986

Arab League Committee Issues Statement on War

JN131200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1043 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — The Arab seven-member committee entrusted with following up Iraq-Iran war developments has warned the Iranian regime against the dire consequences which the continuing Iranian aggression against Iraq will have on Arab-Iranian relations and asked Iran to stop its armed aggression against Iraq. In a statement issued at the end of its meetings in Baghdad, the committee noted the grave situation that has arisen because of Iran's new large-scale aggression against Iraqi sovereignty and territorial integrity in the east Basra and Shatt al-'Arab areas — an aggression which threatens security, territorial integrity, and sovereignty in the Arab Gulf region.

The committee requested an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss developments and take practical, immediate measures to stop the war. The following is the text of the statement:

At the invitation of the Arab League secretary general, upon the initiative of the Republic of Iraq, and based on the Arab League resolution issued at its emergency session on 14 March 1984 on the Iraq-Iran war, which stipulated the formation of a ministerial committee to follow up the situation arising from the continuation of this war, the committee met in Baghdad on 12 February 1986 with all its members attending. It reviewed the extremely grave situation that has arisen because Iran has launched a new large-scale aggression against Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity in the east Basra and Shatt al-'Arab areas with the aim of occupying more Iraqi territory and threatening the security, sovereignty, and territorial integrity in the Arab Gulf region, something which demonstrates Iran's rejection of international resolutions and its flouting of appeals for peace, for mediation, and for seeking international legitimacy in settling the dispute between the two neighboring countries.

In view of this intransigent Iranian attitude, which takes lightly the UN Charter and resolutions, the rules of international law, human values, and international public opinion, the committee finds itself compelled to be guided again by the above Arab League resolution which, in its fourth paragraph, stipulates renewed commitment to the 12th Arab summit resolution issued in Fes concerning solidarity with Iraq in its legitimate efforts to repel aggression and which warns Iran that its aggression against Iraq — an Arab League member state which has accepted all peace initiatives — will force the Arab states to reconsider their relations with it. The committee recalls the contents of the final statement of the Arab summit conference held in Casablanca in 1985 on the war which expressed its deep regret for and condemnation of Iran's insistence on continuing the war and launching one offensive after another against Iraq.

In view of the above, the committee asks Iran to stop its armed aggression against fraternal Iraq. It considers it its duty to warn Iran of the dire consequences that its insistence on aggression will have on Arab-Iranian relations, and the adverse results that will ensue if Iran does not respond to calls for a halt to the war and enter into negotiations with Iraq with the aim of reaching an honorable, comprehensive solution for the dispute on the basis of the UN Charter and international law.

In view of the grave situation in the region as a result of the continuation of the Iranian aggression and its efects on the security and peace in the region and the world, the committee calls on all states, organizations, and international bodies to firmly persevere in their efforts to establish peace between Iraq and Iran on the bases of international law.

The committee has decided to call for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to discuss the grave developments in the situation and to take practical, quick measures to put a final end to the war and solve the dispute by peaceful means. The committee has also decided that all committee members will attend the Security Council's deliberations.

Committee Members Express Solidarity

Chedli Klibi at News Conference

JN131206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has said that in all circumstances the Arabs are in solidarity with Iraq in its confrontation of the Iranian aggression.

At a press conference here today and replying to Iranian regime's President Khamene'i's threats that his regime will not remain silent over the recommendations of the seven-member follow-up committee, Klibi added that pan-Arab duty requires absolute solidarity with the Iraqi people in deterring the aggression.

The committee met in Baghdad last night and discussed the Arab measures that should be taken to support Iraq.

Saudi Minister Calls for Cease-Fire

LD121854 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1839 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad 12 Feb (KUNA) — Saudi Arabia this evening urged Iran, through its Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, to immediately observe a cease-fire and respond to peace initiatives.

The Iraqi News agency INA quotes Prince Sa'ud al-Fasyal as making his call to Iran, on arrival here this afternoon to attend an urgent meeting of an Arab seven-man committee charged with following up the Iraqi-Iranian war, "to observe a cease-fire immediately and respond to peace initiatives to guarantee the rights of both sides, for the edification of good neighborly relations, and for security and stability to prevail in the region for the good of the Arab and Islamic nation."

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has also urged all the Arab states "to use their potentials to the long-standing Iraqi-Iranian war".

He has stressed that the continuation of this war "causes the attrition of the potentials and capabilities of both countries, a matter that constitutes a shock to the Arab position that has already showed a desire for peace and an eagerness to maintain Arab-Iranian relations."

INA also says that Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has praised Iraq's stand and its acceptance of all peace initiatives, saying: "Iraq has always expressed its readiness to stop the fighting and to enter into negotiations to attain a peaceful, just, and honorable settlement to the conflict."

Bulgaria's Grisha Filipov Arrives on Visit

JN111532 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 11 Feb (INA) — Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, arrived here today at the head of a delegation on an official visit to Iraq which will last several days.

Receiving the chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers at the airport were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, and ministers.

In a statement to INA, Grisha Filipov expressed his happiness at visiting Iraq, saying that this visit comes in light of his country's desire to expand and deepen the existing relations of friendship and cooperation with Iraq.

Talks Begin 11 Feb

JN120751 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Official talks between Iraq and Bulgaria began last night. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, chaired the Iraqi side to the talks: and Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, chaired the Bulgarian side. Ramadan and Filipov exchanged speeches in which they praised the development of Iraqi-Bulgarian relations of cooperation and friendship and emphasized the need to promote them in service of the two friendly countries' interests. They also stressed the need to maintain the current level of cooperation between the two countries and to formulate future programs with respect to the friendship which exists between them.

The Iraqi side comprises Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade member; Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform; and officials from the two ministries. The Bulgarian side comprises Foreign Trade Minister Khristo Iliev Khristov, other Bulgarian officials, and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Grisha Filipov yesterday evening. The discussion during the meeting dealt with bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in service of the two countries' interests. The meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform; Khristo Iliev Khristov, Bulgarian foreign trade minister; and the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad.

President Receives Filipov

JN121335 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Council of Ministers in Bulgaria, this morning. Cordial relations between Iraq and Bulgaria and ways to develop them were discussed during the meeting. First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan, the president's secretary, the Bulgarian ambassador in Baghdad, and the Iraqi ambassador to Bulgaria attended the meeting.

Visits Ends; Agreements Signed

JN131459 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, signed an economic, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement covering the next 5 years today. In a speech on the occasion, Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed satisfaction with the positive results of the talks which produced an agreement defining the general framework for future cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria and expressing the solid friendship which exists between the two countries.

The chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers expressed satisfaction with the results the two countries attained, results which will initiate a new stage for promoting cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria in service of their mutual interests.

Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform, and Khristo Khristov, Bulgarian minister of trade, have also signed an agreement on bilateral relations for the current year. The agreement covers details of joint cooperation for this year in economy, industry, irrigation, transport, electricity, land reforms, trade exchange, and finance. The signing ceremony was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers; and Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister.

Following the signing ceremony Grisha Filipov left Baghdad at the end of a 3-day visit to Iraq. He was seen off by Taha Yasin Ramadan and Hasan 'Ali.

Communique Issued on Visit

JN131834 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Feb (INA) — Iraq and Bulgaria have expressed their mutual desire to promote bilateral cooperation in service of their two peoples' interests. In a press communique issued here today at the end of an official visit to Iraq by Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, which ended today, the two sides praised the fruitful development of cooperation between Iraq and Bulgaria in various spheres, particularly in the economic sphere in accordance with agreements which were concluded at the highest levels and also in accordance with treaties and conventions in force between the two governments.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the fact that these relations have strengthened and that the cooperation which exists between their two countries is beneficial to both. They emphasized the benefit of the Iraqi-Bulgarian political dialogue and the two countries' determination to further promote reciprocal relations in all spheres. They reiterated their mutual desire to further promote bilateral cooperation in service of the two friendly peoples' interests and for the sake of world peace and security.

During the visit, an agreement for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was signed for 1986-1990 which contained the scope and possibilities of cooperation between the two countries in the aforementioned fields. Within the framework of the joint committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation, the two sides signed the minutes of the 17th session agreement. The minutes contained in detail the scope of cooperation for 1986 in economic, commercial, and scientific fields, as well as financial cooperation for 1986 and 1987.

The two sides exchanged views on current international issues. The views of the two sides were either identical or similar. The two sides expressed their governments' concern over the complicated international situation and the dangers threatening world peace. They stressed the need to prevent the start of an arms race in space and to stop the arms race on earth. They also stressed the need to improve the international situation, alleviate tension, and support efforts aimed at achieving comprehensive disarmament, especially nuclear disarmament, and preventing an arms race and the deployment of nuclear weapons.

The two sides highly praised the statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 15 January 1986 regarding the complete destruction of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The two sides noted the great importance of promoting and deepening detente in the world. The Iraqi side praised Bulgaria's active efforts aimed at making the Balkan's a region free from nuclear and chemical weapons and a region of peace, security, and cooperation.

The two sides affirmed their conviction in the need to achieve a speedy just and peaceful solution to the Middle East crisis by involving the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative. They also affirmed that any attempt to impose separate solutions on Arab countries cannot achieve a just, honorable settlement. The two sides expressed their conviction in the need to involve all parties concerned in the conflict through an international conference in any attempt or process aimed at resolving the Palestine question.

The two sides stressed that any lasting, just, comprehensive settlement in the Middle East must be based on the unconditional and complete withdrawal of the Zionist entity's forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and on guaranteeing the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, particularly their right to repatriation, self-determination, and to establishing their independent state in Palestine.

The two sides expressed their strong denunciation of the continuous Zionist aggression on Lebanon and its occupation of parts of Lebanon. They also denounced the Zionist entity's continuous interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs and its territorial integrity. They called for the Zionist forces' unconditional withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

The Iraqi side briefed the Bulgarian side on recent developments in the Iraq-Iran war and on the various international initiatives to end this war and to peacefully settle the conflict. The Iraqi side reviewed the positive Iraqi response to these initiatives, particularly its response to UN Security Council resolutions, and to the resolutions of the ICO and the Nonaligned Movement.

The Iraqi side reiterated its readiness to end the war and to settle the conflict through just and comprehensive means on the basis of the UN Charter and international law to achieve a complete and immediate end to military operations on all fronts, the withdrawal of forces to international borders, the holding of direct or indirect negotiations, an end to interference in the two countries' domestic issues, and a comprehensive exchange of POW's.

The Bulgarian side has reiterated its firm and principled stand toward an immediate and peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Iran conflict.

The Bulgarian side acquainted itself with the positive method Iraq follows regarding international initiatives to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict. The Bulgarian side expressed its strong belief that the continuation of bloodshed at the Iranian-Iraqi front conflicts with the interests of the two countries' peoples and those of Middle Eastern states. The Bulgarian side stressed that it is more necessary than ever to bolster the Middle East states' unity of struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

The two sides' viewpoints were identical on the need for an effective UN Security Council contribution to ending the war between Iraq and Iran and to peacefully settle the conflict in accordance with the UN Charter and the international law.

The two sides stressed the growing importance of the nonaligned states' role in solving serious world problems. They expressed their appreciation for these states' contribution to the struggle for averting nuclear catastrophe and for liquidating hotbeds of tension and serious conflict. They also stressed the importance of bolstering the nonaligned states' unity of struggle against imperialism and in eliminating colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, apartheid, and all forms of persecution and exploitation.

The Bulgarian side praised the efforts exerted by Iraq, in its capacity as a member of the Nonaligned Movement, to entrench the Nonaligned Movement's position in the world, strengthen its hostility to imperialism, support its struggle for peace, disarmament, and international detente, and to promote international cooperation without discrimination.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit to Iraq by Grisha Filipov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers. They also expressed the belief that this visit would contribute to promoting bilateral relations, friendship, and fruitful cooperation between the two sides in all fields.

Commentary on U.S. Recognition of Palestinian Rights

Minister, 'Source' Interviewed

PM140941 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
13 Feb 86 p 1

[Faysal al-Shubul report on interview with Jordanian Minister for Occupied Territories Affairs Dr Tahir Kan'an in Amman; date not given]

[Text] Dr Tahir Kan'an, Jordanian minister for occupied territories affairs, described the recent statement by the U.S. State Department official spokesman, regarding U.S. recognition that the Palestine problem is more than just a refugee problem, and his assertion of the need to not confuse Security Council Resolution 242 and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights which President Reagan had earlier recognized, as a positive turn in the current U.S. Administration's policy on the Palestine problem.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, the Jordanian minister said these statements mean that the present U.S. Administration is no longer ignoring international resolutions on the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, particularly the right to self-determination, and they indicate a new course that is less biased in favor of the Israeli viewpoint.

Dr Kan'an expressed the hope that this course will be consolidated with a view to serving humanity and justice. This is expected from a superpower like the United States which has a major responsibility toward world peace and security and where one of whose presidents originated the idea of peoples' rights to self-determination.

On the other hand, an official source at the Ministry for Occupied Territories Affairs made a statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* commenting on the recent statement by enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres regarding autonomous rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank. He said that these statements involve great risks, particularly since a heated debate is currently taking place in official Israeli quarters regarding the interpretation of these statements. He said that the Likud and the Labor Party which form the present coalition government in Israel have widely diverging views of Peres' recent statements. Peres bases his statements on Ben-Gurion's philosophy: Ben-Gurion once said that he replied to the Palestinian rejection [of the State of Israel] by challenging all the Arabs and declaring the "State of Israel." Therefore, Peres, like him, finds himself obliged to take unilateral initiative. For his part, Yitzhaq Shamir is leading strong Likud opposition to Peres' ideas. He said that the Camp David agreements are known as "the framework for peace in the Middle East" and therefore we cannot possibly interpret them differently and implement autonomy unilaterally.

The source added that Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has expressed his doubts about the possibility of implementing autonomy because of difficulties and strong opposition. He said: Some 2 hours after we leave the occupied territories we will be forced to return to them with tanks and armored vehicles and pay the price with our blood. In other words, Israeli officials are still divided over the question while the stand of citizens and nationalist bodies in the occupied territories is firm and has not changed. They have declared it publicly and are acting daily with all the means available to them, namely rejecting occupation and adhering to legitimate national rights.

Concluding, the source said that we in Jordan — on all levels and in every position — stand alongside our people in the occupied territories and face the same challenge in order to end the occupation.

AL-DUSTUR on Break in 'Stalemate'

JN131000 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
13 Feb 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The U.S. Approach to Arab Demands"]

[Text] The statement issued by the State Department 2 days ago pertaining to the U.S. understanding of the Middle East issue and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights constitutes a tangible qualitative step forward in this understanding, which is now somewhat closer to Arab demands. It can be said that progress has been achieved in the peace process in the region.

Such a development in the U.S. stand might, for a period of time, constitute the key to proceeding toward an international conference on peace in the Middle East, especially after the U.S. Administration decides on the issue of convening the conference and on who will participate. This opportunity must not be lost through Israel's traditional intransigence — intransigence which escalated after the U.S. statement saying that recognizing UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 does not harm the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. Palestinian rights transcend the aforementioned resolutions. In themselves, the resolutions are not sufficient to tackle the Palestinian question which, according to the U.S. statement, is more than just a refugee problem.

Such a U.S. step, which has long been delayed and through whose delay several opportunities to achieve progress toward a just and lasting peace have been lost, is considered a real gain in this phase in breaking the stalemate in the region. It is also considered an encouragement to the parties concerned with peace to renew their efforts and endeavors to bridge the stands of the parties which still differ on the nature and credentials of an international conference.

We are confident that if the U.S. Administration refuses to submit to the Israeli blackmail, as was the case with previous U.S. Administrations, then this U.S. statement can be developed to the extent that it would meet just Arab demands, headed by a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 as well as recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination within a confederal framework with Jordan.

This right was pointed out in the recent U.S. stand when it affirmed that Palestinian rights can be interpreted and that progress can be made regarding their implementation through negotiations that will be held within the framework of an international peace conference.

King Telephones Saddam Husayn on War Developments

JN131814 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn resumed telephone contact with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn today to inquire about developments in the military situation on the battlefronts. His Majesty King Husayn made new telephone contact with President Saddam Husayn this evening.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the vigilant Iraqi forces have completely foiled the Iranian regime's aggressive plans, that the Iraqi forces have repulsed the Iranian regime's attacks on all fronts, and that the Iraqi forces are tightening their grip on the remants of the aggressors and inflicting on them one defeat after another.

Information Minister Leaves for Cairo

JN121515 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Amman, 12 Feb (PETRA) — Information Minister Muhammad al-Khatib left Amman for Cairo at noon today leading a media delegation on an official visit to Egypt which will last for several days.

In a statement to PETRA and Amman radio correspondents, Al-Khatib said that the special relations between the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the Arab Republic of Egypt proceed from Jordan's belief under His Majesty King Husayn in the need to bolster Arab soldiarity on the highest levels with all Arab brothers.

U.S. Defense Department Official Arrives in Amman

JN111847 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, and his delegation arrived in Amman this evening on an official visit of several days. He was received at Amman military airport by Staff General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces; Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, the assistant chief of staff for operations and planning; the commander of the Jordanian Air Force; and the U.S. military attache in Amman.

Received by Air Force Commander

JN121415 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Staff General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, received Richard Armitage, U.S. assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs, at his office in the General Command this morning. The meeting was attended by Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Talib, his aides for operation and planning, the commander of the Jordanian Air Force, the U.S. ambassador in Amman, the U.S. military attache, and a number of the delegation accompanying the guest.

Al-Jumayyil on Damascus Agreement, Resignation

NC131931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] In an interview published by the French paper *LE MONDE* this afternoon, President Amin al-Jumayyil says that his stand on the Damascus tripartite agreement cannot be considered a rejection of the basic agreement. It includes many important principles, but the text requires modifications, particularly on the following three points: the complementarity of the political system and the social structure, the division of power, and the relationship with other countries.

President al-Jumayyil adds: Concerning these three points, it is the duty of the president of the Republic to protect the fundamentals of the Lebanese existence, ensure normal functioning of the state institutions, and guarantee that our external relations are based on national sovereignty and independence.

President al-Jumayyil asserts: Despite the events of the past 11 years, Lebanon is still a democratic state. If it is legitimate, this democracy could be revived and could prosper.

The president points out that he is working hard to restore the political dialogue, even if on the basis of the tripartite agreement. He urges extraction of the seeds of peace from the tripartite agreement, saying: Let us encourage these seeds to grow and let us not be hasty, and thereby miss opportunities for peace.

President al-Jumayyil affirms that his resignation at present would paralyze the institutions forever. He says not to despair and not to blindly accept an agreement because peace imposed under threats is not permanent. The president notes: I am seeking unanimity, which could put an end to the war, and I insist that the available opportunities must not be missed. The president asserts that the war started in the south and we can bring peace by solving the southern problem, particularly since it includes all the Lebanese factions — Christians, Muslims, Shi'ites, and Druze. He says that the departure of the UN forces from the south will open the way for many plots.

President al-Jumayyil lists his goals within the peace-process: Respect for democracy, participation of the largest possible number of the factions in achieving peace, and a guaranteed role for the institutions. He asks if these constitute a rejection of peace or an endeavor to establish it. He affirms: It is not important to achieve an agreement. What is required is a real solution guaranteeing a genuine peace. The president asserts that peace in Lebanon can be established through close Lebanese-Syrian cooperation and that it is impossible for Syria alone to establish it. He says: We must start with a dialogue among the Lebanese. The president adds: Unity is needed if Lebanon is to endure and there is to be regional security and stability.

More on Interview

NC132300 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2115 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has stressed that he does not reject the Damascus agreement. Replying to questions from the French paper *LE MONDE*, he said: The accord is an important step toward stability. I have agreed to these negotiations on the condition that they will, as has already been established, lead to a national conference. Its results will be submitted to the president and the Chamber of Deputies. Constitutional government is practiced in Lebanon.

The president added: In addition to the signatories of the agreement, there are other involved groups, both military and non-military. My duty is to preserve the rights of all these groups, particularly when the issue concerns the future of the country. We should differentiate between security and peace. We frequently confuse these two concepts. We are seeking genuine peace, which is based on national freedom of expression. President al-Jumayyil continued: Otherwise, the matter will be no more than a security agreement between militias that [word indistinct] their weapons for a time and then will begin fighting. Undoubtedly, a quick end to the war is required immediately. This is an indisputable matter. We admit the need to modify our political system, to assimilate within the Arab environment, and to review our unique and fraternal relations with Syria.

The president said: The tripartite agreement includes many of these principles. However, it needs some improvements, particularly on three points: The complementarity of the political system and the social structure, the division of power, and the relationship with other countries. He added: I discussed these points with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during the eleventh summit. I proposed that the signatories of the tripartite agreement consider my three observations so that the accord will be more realistic. If they accept, I will refer the amended draft of the agreement to the Chamber of Deputies. Thus, the representatives of the people can express their opinion on it. The atmosphere of our last meeting was cordial and fraternal.

Regarding the opposition's campaign for his resignation, President al-Jumayyil remarked: I was constitutionally elected president. The people are split; the territory divided; and the institutions, to a large extent, paralysed. Above these institutions is the presidency, which is still effective. My resignation under these circumstances will lead to a full paralysis of the institutions. At present, the president of the Republic is the [word indistinct] of the edifice. This is not because of his exceptional capabilities or his personal ambitions, but because if the constitutionally-elected president wants to have self-respect, he must [word indistinct] democracy. I wish that the Lebanese and Lebanon's friends would understand this and would (?join) this endeavor and help us to end this crisis.

Franjiyah Suggests Force To End 11-Year Crisis

NC140800 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon
in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] In a statement to the PRESS NEWS AGENCY [Wikalat al-Anba' al-Suhufiyah], former President Sulayman Franjiyah hinted at the possibility of adopting a military solution, should the political solution fail. He said that Lebanon has been living through a military situation for 11 years. The continuation of this situation for a few days longer would not be serious if the end result is the salvation of Lebanon. He noted that it would be better to shorten the war than to allow things to go on as they are.

On the possibility of foreign intervention to prevent a military solution, Franjiyah said: Regional and international powers no longer care about the Lebanese issue. The question can be settled here, on the spot, and either I or you can win.

Franjiyah affirmed that the tripartite agreement is still valid and must be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies for approval or rejection. If the Chamber of Deputies endorses this agreement, then we must revive it, by force if necessary.

PDRY Invites PSP's Junblatt To Visit Aden

NC140713 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Muhammad Nasir, the PDRY charge d'affaires in Beirut, visited Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] headquarters in Beirut yesterday. He was received by PSP Central Committee member 'Ali al-Musawi. During the meeting, the Yemeni charge d'affaires conveyed an invitation from the YSP Politburo to PSP leader Walid Junblatt to visit Aden and hold talks with Politburo members on the recent developments there.

Socialists Demolish Christian Houses in Iqlim

NC141010 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] According to information we have received from the Iqlim al-Kharrub area, armed Junblatt supporters have resumed the demolition of the remaining Christian houses in Al-Jiyah, Al-Rumaylah, and Dahr al-Magharah in the Iqlim. Before beginning the demolition work, which is supervised by the civilian committee, Junblatt's men remove windows, window bars, and doors and sell them in markets. The proceeds go to the civilian committee's funds.

Our information adds that this practice started after the tripartite agreement was signed. Its purpose is to prevent the return of Christian evacuees and to please Druze Shaykh 'Aql, who opposes the provision in the agreement that calls for the return of evacuees.

Amal Arrests More Palestinians, Communists

NC131640 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1515 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports that roadblocks manned by Amal personnel were set up this afternoon along the Airport Road and in the areas of Qasr al-Mashnuq, Qasr al-'Uwayni, and the Al-Rasul al-A'zam mosque. Our correspondent adds that officials at the roadblocks have ordered the arrest of Palestinians and communists in accordance with list of names. They are looking for communists who cooperate with Yasir 'Arafat, following reports that they have been transporting weapons into the camps.

Our correspondent indicates that 10 people have been detained at the roadblocks so far. This has led to tension in the camps and to the deployment of Palestinian gunmen.

This comes at a time when the Coordination Committee, which met today under the chairmansip of Prime Minister Rashid Karami, is trying to defuse tension among the armed groups. Following the meeting, the prime minister announced that the committee had discussed the outcome of its efforts to come up with a security plan for West Beirut. Karami said that the plan had been approved and that it would be put into effect in the next few hours.

Fighting Flares in Beirut, Reaches Al-Sayyad Area

NC131628 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] At 1730, fighting flared on the Sfayr-Al-Mu'allim combat line, where clashes with various types of weapons are continuing. Intense sniper fire has reached the Al-Sayyad traffic circle.

2 Liberation Army Soldiers Killed in Lahd Shelling

NC131444 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A source of the Popular Liberation Army in Sidon has stated that this afternoon agent Lahd resumed heavy artillery shelling of Popular Liberation Army positions and villages east of Sidon. Two members of the Liberation Army were killed and four others were wounded. The source stressed that the Popular Liberation Army will not return the fire because it honors the decision to seek a peaceful political solution to end the fighting in the Jazzin area.

'Fierce' Fighting Raging in S. Lebanon; 5 Killed

NC140942 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] According to security sources in the south, several artillery rounds fell on Sidon today. Fierce fighting currently is raging along the Lib'a-Kafr Falus-'Ayn al-Mir combat lines between the Army of Southern Lebanon and extremist leftist and religious organizations. Five members of the Liberation Army were killed and 20 others were wounded during the clashes that broke out during the past few hours.

Commentary on U.S. Statement on Palestinian Rights

JN131452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] From time to time, the United States comes up with new old ideas and plans to show that it has begun to justly view Arab issues and that it has begun to partly relinquish its full commitment to Israel and to its objectives and expansionist ambitions in the region. The Arabs and the world know that the United States has never viewed the Middle East and its problems and issues except by Israeli standards. The Arabs have attempted for a long time to neutralize U.S. policy in the Middle East, the U.S. disregard of established facts in the region, and the serious consequences of the continuous U.S. support for Zionist hostility.

However, Arab attempts have not found any positive response from the U.S. side. On the contrary, the United States continued to hatch and carry out plots with Israel in an attempt to weaken and fragment Arabs.

Since the establishment of the Zionist entity, the United States has adopted two methods in implementing its policy in the region. The first method is extending direct aid to Israel, adopting its policy and expansionist plans, and extending huge military and economic aid to the Zionist entity. The second method is represented by showing U.S. understanding of Arab demands and objectives. The United States expressed this understanding through plans, proposals, and calls which have not actually given Israel concern. Among these proposals and calls, for example, is what the United States announced a few years ago regarding its opposition to establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories and its support for establishing a homeland for the Palestinians. This came from former U.S. President Carter who said that the Palestinians should have a homeland of their own.

The U.S. initiatives and ideas which are covered by good intentions have reached a point where the United States agreed to provide an international canopy for the Middle East crisis. These initiatives have recently reached a point where the United Statesannounced that the Palestine question is not just a refugee problem and that the Palestinians have legitimate rights and that these rights should be discussed during negotiations. If we review the results of most of the U.S. calls and intitiatives, we will realize that these calls have deceived and trapped all those who trusted U.S. intentions and initiatives in the Middle East. It has become clear that the Palestinian homeland of which former President Carter spoke was no more than a U.S. trick to peddle the Camp David accords. It has also become clear that U.S. opposition to establishing settlements in the occupied territories was just deception enabling the Americans to support the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Today, the new U.S. discovery of the Palestinian people's rights is being viewed as an important development and a turning point in U.S. policy on the Middle East. But what is the truth? The only interpretation of these rights in the political U.S. dictionary is similar to the enemy's interpretation. There are many flagrant examples of this. The most recent example of this is the U.S. veto which was used to bless and support the Israeli attacks on the Al-Aqsa Mosque and Arab holy places and the U.S. veto which defended the Israeli air piracy over the Mediterranean sea.

All historical and political facts say that Washington has never recognized the Palestine question. Moreover, even in its recent initiative, the United States has never recognized the national Palestinian identity or the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. All that Washington believes in is a negotiating table at which the Israelis sit with weak, collapsed, and impotent representatives, which the United States likes to call the Palestinian people's representatives.

This is the truth about U.S. ideas and intentions toward the Palestinian people. Therefore, the Palestinian people and the Arab nation's sons reject these ideas and intentions, because their only objective is to liquidate the Palestine question and to exclude it from the arena of conflict with the enemy. The Palestinian people and the Arab nation will never allow this to happen.

Jerusalem Television Interview With Shim'on Peres

TA131855 Jerusalem Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Interview in Hebrew with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by political correspondent Me'ir Kohen at the Prime Minister's Office on 13 February, on the "Meeting" program — videotaped]

[Text] [Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, in the wake of the failure of the contacts between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat, you voiced the need to grant broad powers of self-rule to the inhabitants of the territories. What is the political significance of this move?

[Peres] First of all, I would like to correct you. The efforts to establish a dialogue with King Husayn have not failed, the negotiations with Husayn have not stopped, and I also hope that they will continue. What has truly failed is the dialogue between Husayn and 'Arafat, which is altogether a different story. From the beginning, I did not believe that 'Arafat would find a common language with Husayn. 'Arafat and his men are now trying to make people in the territories believe that the dialogue is continuing. I think it is my duty to tell the inhabitants of the territories: I am sorry, but 'Arafat has once again blocked the path to peace, he is not offering you any real plan and has left you and us, all of us, hanging in mid-air. Therefore, I say that there are two parallel processes: one in the territories — we do not want you to pay the price, as a result of the failure of the 'Arafat-Husayn talks. The second deals with our continued efforts to establish a dialogue with Husayn.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, does your proposal on devolution in the territories mean that you have given up on the Jordanian option you advocated for years?

[Peres] God forbid, one does not replace the other. I am only saying to the inhabitants of the territories that there is no vacuum. Had I been an inhabitant of the territories, I would have said to myself: If I am allowed to run my own life according to my customs and expectations, why not? We are not telling the inhabitants of the territories: This is what you should do. We are not coming to them with sticks and clubs, but rather with proposals. What we are saying is: Do you want to run your own life? Please do. Do you want us to intervene as little as possible? We will not intervene. Our top priority is really to guarantee the security of both the Arab and Jewish inhabitants. We have no need or interest either in running the municipalities, or their education or agriculture; we want to help.

[Kohen] In the past, there were attempts to implement a policy of expanding the power of the inhabitants of the territories and to unilaterally implement autonomy, but these attempts failed for all sorts of reasons. How can this concept be implemented today in view of the objections within the Alignment as well?

[Peres] I do not know what you mean when you say within the Alignment as well. I am talking about very specific things. We will not force any inhabitant of the territories to do something he does not want to do. Also, we are not proposing that the devolution should take the place of a permanent solution. What we are saying is: Wait a minute, do you want the mayors to be local Arabs? Our answer is: Yes, why not? Do you want to develop the water resources? Please. Do you want to raise or bring in funds? Please. Do you want to set up a bank? Please. Do you want to set up hospitals? Please. Do you want us to help you? We are ready. Do you want to run the offices in the territories? Please. We are not forcing or obliging you; make up your own minds as to what is better and more convenient for you.

[Kohen] Could you outline the devolution plan? Is the current purpose to arrive at interim or partial arrangements in view of the fact that a comprehensive peace is unfeasible?

[Peres] I am not proposing it in place of anything. I am proposing it as an addition to or improvement on the current situation. I am not proposing it as an interim or permanent solution. Now, as for the practical details: As far as municipalities are concerned, there are three towns — Al-Birah, Ramallah, and Hebron — in which the mayors are not Arab. What we say is: Please, we are prepared to take the desires of the inhabitants into consideration and have the municipalities run by locals. If the mayors want more power in the municipal field, we will give it to them; we will not force them.

Second, at present all of the commanding officers or the administrators — or most of them — are Jews. Do you want the commanding officers to be Arabs? Please, we will not force you. But there is really no sense in having education in Judaea and Samaria run by a non-Arab. Why should that be so? The same applies to agriculture, trade, and other spheres.

Third, it is clear that as the population increases and the standard of living rises, one should also see to development. Do you want more industries with investment from inside and outside the territories? Please. Do you want a bank? Please. Do you want to develop water resources, such as the site at Wadi Farrah? Please, why not?; as much as you want, freely, either from inside or with outside assistance, with local investments, anything.

Fourth, this sphere deals with relations with the Arab world. We do not want to stand in the way of your relations with the Arab world, be they religious, cultural, family, or other relations. As a result, we have lifted many travel restrictions; we have significantly reduced the number of banned books, we allow the universities to operate, we allow the papers to publish, and we allow contacts as much as possible. The only restriction is terrorism; we will not allow arms or violence, but we will alow relations.

I would also say that we would be willing to grant more independence and greater say as far as policing duties are concerned. These are the main points. I reiterate: We are not forcing you. Do you think I know what we want to gain by this? We do not want to gain anything; we want both of us to live as human beings, and we want to behave respectfully and considerately. Do you want to keep your Arab way of life and tradition? Please. Do you want to keep your ties with the Arab world? Please.

[Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, what about the status of the IDF?

[Peres] If I knew that we could pull the IDF out and there would be calm, I would be in favor of doing so. However, I am afraid that if we were to pull the IDF out, terrorism would take over, and in my opinion terrorism is just as much an enemy of the local population as it is of the State of Israel. I repeat: Terrorism was not caused by the Palestinian problem; I think the Palestinian problem was caused by terrorism. From 1948 the Palestinians could have established their own state. Who did not let them? We agreed, the United Nations agreed, but the extremists did not allow it. To this day, who has ruined the negotiations with Husayn? Again, the extremists. You know, time does not stand still. In 1948, the chances of solving the Arab problem were greater than they are today, and the longer we wait the less chance there will be.

[Kohen] Mr Peres, it is known that a large part of the devolution plan depends mainly on Jordan's agreement to such moves as the appointment of mayors in the West Bank. Have there been any contacts with the Jordanians on this issue?

[Peres] You are asking me a specific question and I will give you a conceptual answer. We want to coordinate affairs with Jordan as much as possible; we are not acting against Jordan. We remember very well that all the inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria are Jordanian citizens. There are members of the Jordanian Parliament, there is the Jordanian dinar and Jordanian law, and we are not acting against Jordan. Whenever possible, we act with Jordan. Still, I am not specifically answering your question; I am mainly telling you our basic approach.

[Kohen] Do you foresee Jordan's blessing for the plan in the future, perhaps?

[Peres] I do not foresee any such blessing from Jordan, since it would be very difficult for it to grant this officially. In general, I distinguish between official, overt actions and practical actions. I do not suggest that any inhabitant of the territories make a statement that would harm his position; I do not expect or ask for such a thing; this is why I am also cautious about headlines. I think this is the right approach until we reach a practical arrangement.

[Kohen] What would you expect from the Palestinian leadership in the territories today in the wake of the collapse of the talks between Husayn and 'Arafat?

[Peres] I would expect them to take their fate into their own hands. If they leave their fate to others, there will be nobody to look after them. Look, there were three viewpoints about the inhabitants of the territories: first, apparently that of Jordan, which hoped that the PLO leadership would change. Today, the PLO leadership is mainly composed of people who did not come from the territories but rather from what is currently known as Israel, within the boundaries of the Green Line, from Yafo and 'Akko; they include hardly anybody from Nabulus, Janin, Hebron, or Jericho. Indeed, some people from the territories were made part of the PLO leadership, but to my deep regret Fahd al-Qawasimi was murdered, Muhammad Milhim did not attain a prominent position, and the old-timers remain. I believe the Jordanians thought that if representatives of the territories joined the PLO leadership they would look after the territories, because the current PLO leadership wants to destroy the State of Israel more than it wants to find a solution to the problem of the territories.

The second viewpoint, apparently that of 'Arafat, wants to maintain the integrity and leadership of the PLO and wants to create the impression that he has a solution. Well, he does not have a solution; believe me, he does not know what to do, he simply does not know what to do. He does not know, he kills, his people are being killed; it is all just violence, violence, violence; violence without a plan, the plan is violence.

The third viewpoint, that of Israel, is: You, the inhabitants of the territories — there are some 800,000 in Judaea and Samaria and 560,000 in Gaza — come and look for a solution; we are prepared to talk to you and with you. Do you want to talk separately? Please. Do you want to talk to us in a Jordanian-Palestinian framework? Please. There are mayors and authentic leaders in your midst. What do you want? Do you want all your decisions to be made in exile by people who did not come from the territories, by people who are incapable of making a decision? This is our outlook.

[Kohen] In the talks held in Amman, there was almost direct contact between the PLO and U.S. representatives. This week we heard a new nuance from the State Department about self-determination for the Palestinians....

[Peres, interrupting] No, not about self-determination but about the legitimate rights of the Palestinians; these are two different things.

[Kohen] The question is: Do you believe this new nuance is an attempt to take a different approach toward the Palestinian issue?

[Peres] No, I do not htink so. I think all the definitions are included in the Camp David accords. This is what is written in the Camp David accords: to recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people [preceding three words in English], to solve all the aspects of the Palestinian problem. There is also a reference to the issue of self-determination; and also the Palestinians will participate in determining their own future. [sentence in English] In other words, since the reference is not to an area which belongs only to one side, not even according to the Arab point of view, what the accords say is that when dealing with self-determination, two peoples are involved, and both of them have a right to self-determination. Therefore, when referring to the Palestinians, the Camp David Accords say that they will also take part in determining their own future.

[Kohen] Sir, do you know about contacts between the PLO and U.S. representatives in Amman?

[Peres] I do not know about this. The Americans have denied it and I believe their denial.

[Kohen] In your assessment, what are the possibilities open to Husayn in the wake of the failure of the talks with Yasir 'Arafat? Is there a chance that Jordan will enter the negotiations without the PLO?

[Peres] I cannot tell you what Husayn will do; I can only tell you my assessment. Were Husayn to decide to lead the negotiations, I believe he would receive wide support from the inhabitants of the territories. They are tired of this entire mess and of having all paths blocked. I also think there is appreciation for Husayn; after all, he has turned out a very capable leader who has been running Jordan very well with a great deal of stability, albeit not without problems. They are used to Jordan's norms, and in my opinion, were Husayn to decide to lead the negotiations, many people in the territories would follow his lead.

[Kohen] Yesterday you stated in the Knesset that time is running out and working against the peace process. Is there a deadline from Israel's point of view regarding when Husayn should enter the negotiations?

[Peres] I do not have any deadlines. Somebody once said jokingly that a statesman who can say what will happen in 3 months can see the entire future; I am not talking about 3 months. What can I do with a deadline or with a pessimistic attitude? I believe that a person who wants to do something must be optimistic, believing, and patient. Even if there is a relapse here and a failure there, there is no need to despair. I will certainly not set deadlines.

[Kohen] Sir, about relations with Egypt: The talks between Israel and Egypt, which were held earlier in Cairo and this week in Herzliyya, were successful. Do you think the arbitral compromis can be finalized shortly?

[Peres] I think so. Both sides need a large number of attorneys, but that is only natural. It will probably take a lot of argument, but there is no reason why, after we decided in principle on arbitration, we should not reach an arbitral compromis.

[Kohen] One of the main topics of the talks is whether there is a linkage or dependence between arbitration over Tabah and progress in normalization.

[Peres] Look, we really have a talent for complicating matters unnecessarily. We and Egypt agreed that we should simultaneously see to normalizing relations and solving the Tabah problem, and this is a satisfactory decision. In other words, we should find a solution to the questions of tourism, trade, transportation access, the return of the ambassador, and to the Tabah question at one and the same time. Why complicate things further?

[Kohen] Does that mean that linkage is not an Israeli demand?

[Peres] Why should I demand when there is an understanding between Egypt and Israel to solve all the problems simultaneously?

[Kohen] Mr Peres, how do you foresee relations between the two countries once the understandings reached by the directors general are approved by the Cabinet? Are you going to confer with President Mubarak?

[Peres] I cannot predict the future, I can only tell you the future I hope for. In fact, I would like to see the Middle East become like Europe: each people keeping its language and identity, free contacts, a common economy. In my opinion, the Middle East today can be turned into a blossoming garden. I think the Arab world is also riding itself of the notion that oil is the answer to everything. You know, there is a difference between oil and faith: the price of oil may rise or fall, whereas faith does not decline. I think this is the final purpose: to create a European relationship instead of a violent relationship. I believe this is for the benefit of all the peoples of the region. I think we should take out of our lexicon the words war and hatred. There is no choice other than doing this step by step, but this is the main goal.

[Kohen] And you also have faith that the summit meeting will take place?

[Peres] It is not a question of faith. I am prepared and President Mubarak will decide whenever it is convenient for him. I am not pressuring him or asking him. What I am saying is that as far as I am concerned, I am prepared to meet tomorrow or the day after. One should bear in mind that this meeting is not everything, but merely another step. When you are working with somebody you do not pressure him.

[Kohen] One last question: With the release of Anatoliy Shcharanskiy, another phase in the human rights struggle in the Soviet Union came to its end. How do you assess this Soviet move? Does it indicate a new policy toward the Jews and a thaw in relations between the Soviet Union and Israel?

[Peres] Before I tell you my assessment of the Soviet move, I will give my assessment of the Jewish approach. We do not give up on anyone; we do not give up our faith. Look, one man arrived in Israel and the heart of the entire nation beat as one. This is what gives us our uniqueness and our unity. From the Jewish point of view, I hope that our Arab neighbors understand this too. A people which has suffered and has been persecuted so much is really shaped to feel solidarity with the life of another person, even if he is just one person, and we do not give up.

As for the Soviets, it is too early to tell. I do not think the release of Shcharanskiy denotes a change in policy. However, this does not mean that everything is blocked. On the contrary, one should examine and analyze a political situation by facts rather than by declarations, and the facts in the field are still too few to allow far-reaching political conclusions.

[Kohen] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you very much.

Peres Calls for Beginning Policy of Economic Growth

TA131653 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] We begin this newsreel with what may turn into a new government crisis. The unity government is no longer counting the crises or getting excited about another possible crisis. The disputed issue this time is resuming economic growth in Israel. Here is a quote: There are people in our midst who believe we should not let go of the current economic plan. The prime minister stated this today, directing his remarks at the finance minister, although he did not mention him by name, of course. We are continuously slashing, Peres said, adding that the time has come to begin a policy of growth. The rotation of the premiership lies ahead of us, so should we start resuming growth before or after the rotation?, Peres asked rhetorically. The prime minister stressed that to achieve growth we should increase exports and establish a modern technological and scientific infrastructure. The prime minister appeared today before the Association of Friends of the Weizman Institute.

[Begin recording] [Peres] Now that the economic program has proved so successful, we must make the next move. I am afraid that there are people in our midst who are so thrilled by the current plan that they do not want to let go of it, and they think that we must cut, slash, ax, lop, and reduce; they like this. Therefore I think that the time has now come to make a second daring move, perhaps less orthodox, and begin a policy of growth.

[Unidentified correspondent] In order to reach a balance and make progress, Israel must do two basic things: first, increase exports so as to lessen our dependence on outside assistance; and second, create a daring infrastructure of modern technology which will enable Israel to maintain its superiority in the scientific field.

[Peres] Sometimes I am shocked when I hear the criticism of the Lavi project. Who ever heard of any other nation setting out to develop a jet fighter, which may become an advanced or perhaps the most advanced plane of its generation, when the main financier is the U.S. Government?

[Unidentified correspondent] Peres added that in the framework of this growth, we should also work in the social sphere. We must check to see if certain social strata have been harmed by the current economic policy. In this category, Peres included the encouragement of agriculture, industries capable of recuperating, and the universities. The prime minister also spoke about the need to study feelings of social discrimination in the development towns that have a large concentration of unemployed. I believe that a solution can be found for 3,000 to 4,000 people out of the 6,000 unemployed in the development towns, the prime minister said.

To finance the economic plan, there is no need to increase the budget or go back to printing money, the prime minister noted. One may take advantage of the drop in oil prices and other products in the international market and invest the money saved back in the economy.

[Peres] Even if we are 60 percent successful and 40 percent unsuccessful, if we have the daring, chutzpah, and faith to do this, we will push ahead. Otherwise we will lag behind without a ray of hope.

[Unidentified correspondent] As recalled, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i was quoted this morning as saying that Minister Ya'aqobi's growth plan, as presented by the prime minister, is a collection of old ideas, and as cautioning against beginning economic growth at the moment. Blabber does not lead to economic growth, Moda'i stated. [end recording]

Reportage on Talks With Egypt on Tabah Issue

Kimche Sees 'Turn for Better'

TA131421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche has said that a turn for the better has taken poace in Egypt's position on Israel's requests regarding relations between the two countries. Mr Kimche told our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar that there is also an improvement in these relations, and that this is facilitating the talks between the Israeli and Egyptian delegation discussing arbitration over Tabah. He said the Israeli delegation asked the Egyptians for a group of tourism experts to be permitted to visit Cairo along with the minister of tourism on his official visit there. Israel would like a discussion to be held on all issues connected with tourism between the two countries. Our correspondent also reports that the Egyptian delegation has asked to meet with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, and apparently the meeting will be held tomorrow morning.

Progress Made

TA131628 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Today is the second day of the talks between the Egyptian and Israeli delegations in Herzliyya and there has been some progress: Both countries have reached agreement on promoting normalization. The head of the Egyptian delegation is optimistic and believes that progress in the negotiations will henceforth be faster. The formulation of the arbitral compromis will be finalized within a few weeks, according to the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Avraham Tamir. Our correspondent on Arab affairs, Eldad Beck, is at the broadcasting van in Herzliyya.

[Beck] A few minutes ago, the two joint Egyptian-Israeli working teams — one dealing with the formulation of the arbitral compromis and the other dealing with the normalization of relations — began their evening session at the meeting hall. From talks we held with members of the delegation, it emerges that additional progress was made in the sessions this morning on the two issues. We heard from the members of the Israeli delegation, Avraham Tamir and David Kimche.

[Begin recording] [Tamir] The relatively simple issues are finalized quickly, whereas the problematic issues call for lengthier deliberations. The purposes are clear and there is time for everything. I believe that several issues will be solved today simultaneously. I believe that it is not a matter of months but rather of weeks.

[Kimche] The fact is that today we are placing all our emphasis on the bilateral issues. We have been discussing these matters since this morning and are looking into ways to advance them in a pleasant atmosphere. The issues are: tourism, trade, communications, and culture. This is what we are doing.

[Beck] Did you reach any agreements on these issues?

[Kimche] We have made progress on these issues, but it will take time before we reach any agreements.

[Beck] The head of the Egyptian delegation, Dr Nabil al-'Arabi, also said that many issues remain to be discussed. [end recording]

The arbitration committee, which includes Avraham Tamir on the Israeli side, continued to formulate the arbitral compromis clauses and we were told that understanding has been reached on marginal issues, such as the frequency of the meetings of the arbiter and the need for the arbiter to tour the disputed area in Tabah. The problematic issues have not yet been tackled, and Israeli sources told us that a decision on them may be deferred to the political level.

The normalization committee determined the framework for improving mutual relations. Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir was invited to Cairo but a date for the visit was not set. It was also decided to hold a meeting on the professional level between Israeli and Egyptian representatives in order to implement the trade agreements that have already been signed by the two countries. These two points will be carried out even before the arbitral compromis has been signed.

The Israeli committee headed by Mr Kimche emphasized the need for the Egyptian media to be open to Israeli elements, but no agreement was reached on the subject. However, in a separate development and as a gesture by the Egyptian side, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres was interviewed by the popular Egyptian weekly *AKHIR SA'AH* by the Egyptian female journalist who is covering the Herzliyya talks. This is the first interview of an Israeli prime minister in the Egyptian media in 3 years.

We should also note that the prime minister's political adviser, Nimrod Novik, joined the talks this afternoon. He held a separate meeting with the head of the Egyptian delegation and was briefed by him on the course of the talks.

Justice Ministry Reacts to U.S. Human Rights Report

TA140712 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The Americans will receive a full reply on the report on human rights issued by the U.S. State Department. In the meantime we asked for the Justice Ministry's reaction to the report.

Justice Ministry Director General Me'ir Gabay rejects the U.S. criticism, saying that administrative detentions in the territories do not contravene international law, as corroborated by the supreme court. Gabay emphasizes that these detentions are carried out for security reasons, and that the numbers involved are very small. The same applies to deportations from the territories.

The Justice Ministry director general also notes that the report has not yet reached him and he therefore declined to comment on the claims mentioned in it on water allocation, censorship, and the attitude toward the Jewish underground prisoners.

IDF Returns Body of Jordanian Soldier to Jordan

TA131137 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The IDF yesterday transferred to the Jordanian Army the body of the Jordanian soldier who infiltrated Israeli territory in the Mehola area approximately 2 weeks ago and killed two IDF soldiers in an ambush. This is reported by our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal. The transfer was carried out on one of the Jordan River Bridges.

IDF Intends To Release Turkish Vessel, Crew

TA131702 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The IDF intends to release the Turkish vessel and its crew. The vessel was detained by the Israeli Navy near Gaza 2 days ago. It has been detained several times in the past both by the Israeli and Turkish authorities on suspicion of involvement with drug dealings. The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem today announced that the crew members are being held by the police and that any moves will henceforth be coordinated with the Turkish authorities. The family of the deceased captain has not yet given its approval for an autopsy to be performed. Bullet wounds and stab marks were found on his body.

Majority of Labor Ministers Want Early Elections

TA132027 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A decisive majority of Labor Party ministers is in favor of ending the national unity government at the earliest opportunity and holding new elections. Reporter Tony Gadot learned from reliable ministerial sources in the Labor Party that the only obstacle to the dissolution of the government is Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who sees himself bound by the rotation agreement.

Bus Blast in Tel Aviv Area Wounds Six

TA140707 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] A bomb exploded inside a bus in Bene Beraq. Six people were wounded. Our correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that the bomb exploded on a No. 66 Bus on Hashomer Street, corner Jabotinsky Road. As said, six people were wounded. The police cordoned off the area and are conducting searches. The bus passengers and pedestrians are being questioned.

AFP: PLO Force-17 Claims Credit

NC141009 Paris AFP in English 0953 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Jerusalem, Feb 14 (AFP) — Six people were injured in a bomb attack on a bus in the suburbs of Tel Aviv today which was claimed by the Palestine Liberation Organization's Force-17 guerrilla corps in a telephone call to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here.

The caller warned there would be "other operations in the struggle against our enemies," but gave no indication of when or where.

Several dozen Arab suspects were arrested following the explosion today, police said.

The bomb exploded aboard a bus near a meeting point for Palestinian workers from the occupied territories, between the orthodox Jewish community of Bene Beraq and the district of Pardes Kaz. There were no serious injuries.

A small bomb went off near a bus stop in the town of Afula in northern Israel yesterday but no one was injured.

ASL Soldier Killed, 3 Wounded in S. Lebanon Explosion

TA121112 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] A soldier of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] was killed and three others were injured when a roadside bomb exploded this morning near the town of Bint Jubayl in the security zone. The bomb weighed approximately 25 kg. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht learned from ASL headquarters that the bomb had been planted very close to a UNIFIL position and that the terrorists had taken advantage of the presence of the UN soldiers to take cover.

ASL Tank Hits Mine; Village Straffed in Retaliation

TA121701 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1600 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] An army of southern Lebanon tank this morning hit a mine near the border of the security strip. No one was hurt. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that after the incident, the ASL opened tank and machinegun fire at the Shi'ite village of Kafrah and one house was damaged.

IDF, UNIFIL Exchange Accusations on Al-Tiri Incident

TA131207 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Reports have been issued on yesterday's incident involving Irish soldiers in the Shi'ite village of Al-Tiri. The Israelis and the army of southern Lebanon say that the UNIFIL soldiers delayed a pursuit by the south Lebanese of a terrorist band that had planted an explosive charge which killed a south Lebanese army soldier. The UNIFIL report says that the ASL search of the area resulted in the burning of three homes and shots fired above the heads of Irish soldiers. The Irish brigade commander was due to meet on the incident with an Israeli liaison officer.

Mulpoc Ends Meeting, Adopts Resolutions

AB131150 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The Council of Ministers meeting of the Multinational Programming and Operational Center [Mulpoc] for West Africa, ended this afternoon in Lome. During the 3-day meeting, the ministers examined the dossiers prepared by experts of member-countries and those of the Economic Commission for Africa, ECA. Their discussions centered on problems of drought, desertification, the economic crisis, the progress on the creation of the subregional center for research on building materials, and in particular the integration of women in the development process in 1985.

At the end of this ninth ministerial council meeting of the Mulpoc, participants adopted a number of resolutions aimed at reviving the institution. Among the resolutions are the reexamination of the socioeconomic conditions of the subregion and the promotion of agricultural production with increased and adequate use of fertilizers. The meeting also called for the holding of a seminar on the fight against desertification in West Africa.

Other areas in which resolutions were adopted relate in particular to the issue of setting up in Togo a subregional center for research on building materials and the integration of women in development process. The Council of Ministers also agreed on the need to strengthen Mulpoc and to this end, it set up a 10-member adhoc committee to redefine the areas of activities and the role of the organization, in view of the socioeconomic changes that have taken place in the subregion. The member-countries of this adhoc committee are: Ivory Coast, Gambia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo.

The next ministerial council meeting of Mulpoc for West Africa will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

Somali Delegate Denies Split in OATUU

AB120937 Paris AFP in English 0727 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Nairobi, Feb 12 (AFP) — The latest dissension in the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) took a new turn when a group of delegates who attended its special congress in Ghana at the weekend said here Tuesday that only two delegations had walked out instead of the reported 29.

The leader of the Somali delegation, Mohamed Farah Issa, who is also president of the General Federation of Somali Trade Unions, said only Zambia and Cameroon had walked out of the congress. The rest, he said, were not eligible to vote due to some technicalities. According to Mr Issa, they could not vote because "either their national unions had not paid up their affiliation fee in full, were members of other international trade unions, or had more than one trade union in their countries. Even if they had remained in the congress hall, they could not have voted according to Article Number Eight of the OATUU Constitution, which bars member unions with double affiliation from voting," Mr Issa said. He said Zambia and Cameroon, which were eligible to vote, had walked out after their attempt to amend Article Number Eight failed.

Reports from Accra said the organisation had split into two with the smaller one of 13 delegations re-electing the incumbent Dennis Akumu of Kenya, who has been secretary-general for the past 13 years. The reports said the dissidents appointed their own executive and that both groups were calling themselves the OATUU.

Mr Issa said the "smaller" executive was legitimate because it was properly constituted, as the congress electing it had remained quorate despite the walk-out. The smaller group comprises Burundi, Djibouti, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Somalia, Sudan and Tanzania.

The other group comprises Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Togo, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The dissidents accused Mr Akumu of rampant corruption and mismanagement, and demanded that he step down. The last OATUU congress held in January 1985 in Nigeria also broke down in disarray over financial matters.

ALGERIA

Libya's Jallud Departs After Talks

LD131738 Algiers APS in Arabic 1640 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 13 Feb (APS) — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud, member of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Revolutionary Command, left Algiers this evening.

He was seen off at Houari Boumediene airport by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and official in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee, Abdelkader Ben Kaci, head of the Department of International Affairs and Cooperation at the Presidency, and a number of members of the Permament Secretariat and the ambassadors of the two countries.

Before his departure, Staff Major Jallud gave a statement to the press, in which he said in particular: "During our stay we carried out intensive discussions and formed an Algerian-Libyan working group to review bilateral relations between Pesident Chadli Bendjedid and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Ain Amenas recently."

Discussing the talks he had during his stay in Algeria, Major 'Abd al-Salam Jalud Said that during the talks, which took place in a fraternal atmosphere, we talked about the bilateral cooperation between the two countries and other issues, which included in particular the international oil market and its effects on OPEC. We also talked about the situation in the Arab world, West and East.

Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud concluded his statement by thanking the FLN for the warm reception he and the accompanying delegation were given in Algeria.

Tripoli on Talks

LD132249 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the accompanying Libyan Arab delegation have concluded a 4-day visit to sisterly Algeria and returned to Tripoli this evening. Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian FLN Party, was in the forefront of those who saw Staff Major Jallud off when he left Houari Boumedienne Airport.

Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud told reporters at Houari Boumedinne airport that the two fraternal delegations, Libyan Arab and the Algerian, had carried out intensive work and acted as a single Arab team. He declared that there is a political will in the two fraternal countries to crystallize a unionist action based on a dialogue between the brothers of both countries lasting more then 16 years. He said this unionist action stems from the fraternal spirit left by the visit of the leader of the revolution and President Chadli Benjedid in the town of Ain Amenas on 28 January. Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud added in his statement that they were able to complete a work that constitutes a unionist move between Libya and Algeria, a unionist move in the Arab Maghreb, a unionist move at the level of our Arab nation. He stressed that the brothers in the two countries will meet once more so that this action can take popular steps.

Albanian Foreign Minister Meets Assembly Leader

LD130225 Algiers APS in English 1020 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/86 (APS) — Talks gathered today the head of People's National Assembly (APN) Rabah Bitat and Albanian Foreign Minister Mr. Reis Malile. The two sides focused on perspectives to expand cooperation between the two countries and the two parliaments. They also exchanged views on the international situation.

Commerce Minister, France's Cresson on Cooperation

LD121129 Algiers APS in English 1006 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Algiers, 12/2/86 (APS) — Works of the 4th session of the Algero-French joint commission were sanctioned yesterday by a proccedings of cooperation which was signed by the Trade Minister Abdelaziz Khellef and the French Minister of External Trade Mrs. Edith Cresson.

Mr. Khellef qualified this session of an "interesting" one since a global approach of the bilateral cooperation was outlined. He also mentioned the new dimension of the Algero-French cooperation registered thanks these discussions.

Interviewing on her turn, during a press conference, Mrs. Edith Cresson qualified as "satisfying the results of this session which will have enabled to take stock of bilateral relations and to define certain orientations in order to promote cooperation between the countries".

The French minister further spoke about the field of action favourable to the Algero-French cooperation and regarding sectors of agriculture, housing and transports, insisting on the wide possibilities of cooperation in the agricultural field, pointing out the progress achieved in that frame and the availability of the French partner to develop this cooperation including the agro-alimentary sector. She further referred to the international economic crisis which has upset certain data.

In this regard, she stressed that there are less and less big contracts and that the interest should be centered on on the small and the medium entreprises notably fields of the maintenance, follow-up and the technological transfer.

Examining the exchanges between the two countries, Mrs. Cresson noted before all the doubling of the volume of these exchanges within four years. The commercial excess in favour of France (1 billion of F.F.) will not be maintained with the prospect of the cooperation development.

Foreign Minister Meets With French President

For APS and French media reports on the meeting in Paris between Foreign Minister Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and French President Francois Mitterand, please see the France section of the 13 February Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Continue Maneuvers in Gulf of Sidra

LD131503 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text]Tripoli, Jumada Thani 2, Feb 13, JAMAHIRIYA NEWS AGENCY — The naval, air and air defence Libyan Arab Forces continued yesterday their manoeuvres for the fifth day running with live ammunition across the Mediterranean Sea outside the Gulf of Sidra. Mention should be made that these manoeuvres which started Saturday will continue until 18th instant.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Visiting Iranian Delegation

LD131855 Tripoli JANA in English 1816 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Athani 2, Feb. 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Today the leader of the revolution received the speaker and members of the Iranian delegation of the Consultative Assembly who are visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah nowadays.

Delegation Departs

LD131828 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 13 Feb (JANA) — Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, head of the delegation of the Iranian Consultative Assembly, has stressed anew the solidarity and the standing of the Iranian people with the fraternal Libyan Arab people in resisting and confronting American imperialism and Zionism.

On his departure from Tripoli this evening together with the accompanying delegation, Khalkhali told JANA correspondent that his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has achieved valuable results in the service of the two revolutions, the great al-Fatah revolution and the Iranian revolution.

Comment on Reagan Press Conference, Attitude

LD131737 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] American President Reagan held a press conference yesterday evening at which he spoke of the provative exercises by the American naval and air forces opposite the Libyan Arab shores. Asked why the American warships and aircraft did not cross latitude 32.30 which the brother commander of the revolution has called the latitude of death, the red line, Reagan gave ambiguous replies. He said: I do not know the nature of the powers on the spot there, the fleet has carried out several exercises and some of the exercises require the crossing by some planes and vessels of that latitude. I have given my approval of this in advance. I will give new orders in this respect. If they do not cross that latitude, itis because the exercises do not require to cross it.

The JANA commentator has said the Reagan statement indicates Reagan does not feel his international responsibility. For how can the head of the American Administration be ignorant of the nature of these serious exercises and the threat to peace and security they can pose in the Mediterranean and the world at large?

As to his statement; I have given my approval in advance regarding the crossing of the latitude 32.30 in the Libyan Arab Gulf of Sidra, this reflects Reagan's disregard for the sovereignty of states and the freedom of peoples and his lack of respect for international laws and the UN Charter. The statement also reflects arrogance of power and ignorance of the facts of history, a matter which former American President Carter had affirmed after the expiry of his presidency and his embarkation on a tour of 88 countries. Each time he visited a country, Carter used to say, I never knew that the people of that country possessed all these cultural capabilities and had built a civilization here or there. He forgot that the world was not the United States, but human civilizations established by the peoples throughout history.

The JANA commentator added: This shortcoming and ignorance about the world people's right to live in freedom and peace was what lies behind the American decisionmaking, a matter which made all the world peoples rise to fight the imperialist tendencies and the policies of containment, exploitation and oppression executed by the planners and implementers of the American policy.

As the world peoples have scored victories in the past over the American military might, the victories will continue.

Use of Arab Assets Against Imperialism Urged

LD141022 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 14 Feb 86

["Hammers on Reality" program]

[Text] The revolutionary unionist meetings which take place regularly between the sincere leaderships of the Great September Revolution and the Progressive November Revolution all aim to pool the Arab popular material and moral capabilities and devise ways to use them in serving the ambitions of the entire Arab nation. They also aim to exploit all the Arab capabilities, which, if they were to be used for serving the pan-Arab battle against imperialism and the Zionist enemy, would have brought full victory for the Arab people and dealt a decisive reply to all the aggressive ambitions and threats by the enemies of the Arab people.

The Arab nation possesses sufficient strategic capabilities to equip it with military, economic, and human powers, which, if used properly after their pooling, could inevitably frighten and intimidate the invaders and those with ambitions on the destiny of the Arab people.

The Arab homeland, with its millions of square kilometers and its linkage of three continents, two oceans, and two seas has a strategic position and a geographic depth for the Arab homeland. It could acquire exteme importance if only the Arabs knew how to exploit it and use to it to achieve victory and insure for themselves protection from the dangers surrounding them, which are the byproduct of their division and dispersement. These in turn deprive them of the ability to have any influence in the face of the imperialist challenge and the Zionist aggression on the Arab nation, aimed at consecrating the usurpation and further expanding in the Arab homeland.

In this context, we wish to highlight one precise point, which constitutes only one of the capabilities of the Arab nation, which can endow the Arab nation with an Arab power able to influence the world map: By this, we mean the economic power which now has the ability to influence the world economy. If this source of power was exploited properly in the interest of the Arab homeland, the Arab people would attain a high level of cultural progress and security and a high degree of influence in the international arena.

This is what the Arab people now lack because of certain considerations that were imposed on them behind their backs by the work of foreign colonization and the dominant autocratic rulers that robbed the peoples of all the resources of their economic and political might and destroyed the human power of the Arab man, using him as a dummy to put into action when they liked, while sitting back and enjoying watching them.

Billions of Arab assets amassed in foreign banks outside the Arab homeland, billions of the Arab people's savings and oil revenues, for example, are now being used to serve the monopolies which benefit the countries opposed to the Arab nation, in manufacturing the weapons that are destroying all the Arabs. Thus, the Arabs help to destroy themselves. The weapons produced by the funds smuggled out are amassed in the racist countries with imperialist expansionist ambitions on the Arab homeland, such as the United States.

The Arab-Zionist wars which have taken place over scores of years were the results of the Arab assets investments which are being used to serve the interests of the imperialist powers. The Arab lands were occupied also because of the Arab assets. Lebanon, which presently is being destroyed, is also being destroyed because of the Arab assets. The destitution of the Palestine Arab people and the usurpation of their land is also the byproduct of the might of weapons produced by Arab assets. The flagrant U.S. challenge to the Libyan Arab Jamahiri people is also the byproduct of the exploitation and use of the Arab assets. The world peoples are now facing destruction and domination by weapons also produced by the Arab assets. The Zionist enemy's blustering and his imposition and consecration of his occupation, his arrogance, and bragging about his might are all the result of squandered Arab assets that the enemy recieves under the name of U.S. and European aid and grants.

Arab assets are thus in fact the principal and effective cause of the destruction of the Arab nation, because the Arab masses were excluded and prevented from participating in determining their fate themselves. Because of the autocratic regimes, the Arab masses are now threatened with annihilation and destruction after being deprived of their frozen assets abroad which they direly need for the development of their Arab homeland, the place where their assets should be invested to serve the interest of the Arab man. This cannot be achieved with the existence of selfish private interests. Nothing can serve the Arab masses' interests, which have nothing to do with the interests of the regional exploiters, unless these masses unify their capabilities and use them in facing up to the Zionist enemy, the imperialist enemy, and the enemies of the Arab people in general.

The Arab masses alone now are held responsible for shouldering their pan-Arab duties. They must face up to their destiny and future themselves. Waiting has been of no avail, after all the concommitants that have be placed around their necks. The vision of the masses is now clear and the masses must decide whether to be or not to be: either to decide their own future with a revolutionary Arab spirit and a free pan-Arab commitment or to accept being a tool of U.S. imperialism and being brought to their knees and being made to accept faits accomplis. The leadership of the great 1 September Revolution has refused to accept this. Faits accomplis mean capitulation. The Libyan people have had tragic experiences prior to their revolution. They lost half of their number in their war against the invading Italians, and had humiliating experiences during the British administration and the U.S. presence on their land and which protected the defunct tyranical regime.

The Libyan people can never go back. The same applies to the Algerian people, the people of the million martyrs, who can never forget the tragedies caused by French colonialism. They can never capitulate or accept faits accomplis.

The constant meetings of the two Arab peoples in the Jamahiriyah and Algeria are in response to popular calls from the peoples of both countries to pool their material and moral capabilities and utilize them to serve the Arab nation, liberate its lands, and repel aggression.

Tripoli Cites U.S. Organizations on Reagan Ban

LD141003 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Representatives of U.S. organizations that declared their defiance of Reagan's decision banning and punishing Americans who visit the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah held a press conference this evening at Africa hall at Bab al-Bahr Hotel in Tripoli. Several correspondents from news agencies and newspapers attended.

Vernon Bellecourt, chairman of the High Council of the Red Indian Nation in North America, read a statement at the beginning of the press conference in the name of all the organizations — the African Revolutionary Movement, Union of African Women, the Movement of New Africa, the Four Directions Movement of America, and a representative of Red Indians in the U.S. state of Dakota. He explained at the beginning of his statement that these organizations represent liberation movements and revolutionary and progressive forces in the United States. Bellecourts said: We know full well who are responsible for racial discrimination and international terrorism. They are the FBI, the CIA, imperialism and Zionism. He pointed out that the U.S. government and its organs continue to expel the original inhabitants and confiscate their land and political rights. He said Reagan continues to support the fascist government in El Salvador which killed more than 70,000 people over 7 years. Moreover, he also supports fascist rule in Guatemala where more than 80,000 nationals have been killed, and he continues to support the fascist regimes in Chile, the Philippines, and South Africa.

V. Bellecourt saluted the firm and courageous stand of the Libyan Arab people and their historic leadership in supporting freedom in the world. He pointed out that the visit of the U.S. delegates to the Jamahiriyah is an act of defiance by the members of these organizations to Reagan's decisions and demonstrates the practical support of the American people for the Libyan Arab people in confronting the economic measures Reagan has ordered to be taken against them. Bellecourt said: We all have the freedom to choose our friends, and we strongly refuse to concede our right by choosing the friends Reagan selects for us.

Representatives of the American organizations replied to questions by reporters about their decision to defy Reagan's order banning Americans from visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab jamahiriyah.

FLN's Messaadia Expresses Support for Libya

LD132236 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau and in charge of the Permanent Secretariat of the Algerian PLN party, declared today that any provocation against Libya is considered a provocation against Algeria and all the Arab nation. In a statement to a JANA correspondent in the Algerian capital Brother Messaadia added with regard to the provocative U.S. maneuvers off the Libyan shores, that the stance of Algeria on this issue is clear, and that any aggression on an Arab country is an aggression on the other because we are a one-nation and of the same destiny. Brother Messaadia said that imperialism is wrong in its calculations if it believes it is capable of frightening us and of intimidating us with the policy of the big stick because as peoples we have destroyed not long ago the shackles of exploitation by relying on ourselves and on our limited resources, and we succeeded in liberating ourselves.

MAURITANIA

Foreign Ministry Appeals For End to Iran-Iraq War

LD132312 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2030 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation this evening issued the following statement:

The Foreign Ministry has followed with full concern the new attack launched by Iran 4 days ago against Iraq. On this occasion the ministry expresses its concern about this escalation which constitutes a dangerous development in this raging war between brothers. The ministry calls upon the Iranian and Iraqi leaders to act responsibly and with wisdom to end this destructive war which in no way serves the highest interests of the two brotherly and neighborly peoples.

Dialogue, the tolerant Islamic teachings, and respect for the principles of international norms and law are the only adequate basis for the search for a just and lasting solution to this conflict. The resort to arms will lead only to the deepening of the abyss and the fanning of the fire of hatred.

In any case the Islamic Republic of Mauritania remains convinced that these two brotherly Muslim countries have to turn towards the clear recommendations of the Islamic Conference Organization and other international organizations, calling for dialogue as a means of putting an end to the killing of human beings, and for the sake of directing all of their powers towards the true battle — the battle of development in peace, amity and good neighborliness, and to face up to the common enemy.

The international community and especially the Arab and Islamic nation has to act quickly to end this conflict and to let wisdom and reason prevail.

In this respect the Islamic Republic of Mauritania hails Iraq's declared preparedness to conduct negotiations.

MOROCCO

FRG's Genscher Holds Talks With Filali

LD131339 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic
1300 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, FRG foreign minister, held a 2-hour working session this morning in Rabat with Mr Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

On arrival in Rabat this morning for an official visit, the German minister stressed that the FRG Government attaches special interest to the current visit given the deep-rooted ties of friendship between the two countries and their strong economic relations. The German minister said that his couintry is interested in knowing the points of view of Moroccan officials regarding the important issues of the region, and given that West Germany is a member of the EEC, Bonn is interested in Morocco's aspirations toward the community.

We are aware, Mr Genscher says, the Mediterranean sea does not separate Europe from the Arab countires. Quite the contrary; it brings the two sides closer together and makes the Europeans and Arabs neighbors. This is a matter that prompts us to reinforce cooperation with the countries bordering the Mediterranean basin and makes Europeans feel that the problems of the region are their own problems.

The German Foreign Minister stressed that his country is conscious of the dangers looming over peace, especially in the Middle East region.

DPA: Morocco Dissatisfied With EEC Mandate

LD141119 Hamburg DPA in German 1001 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rabat, 14 Feb (DPA) — Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher ended his 1-day talks with the Moroccan Government in Rabat today. Speaking to journalists before flying on to Marrakesh, where he is to meet with King Hassan II at lunchtime, Genscher summed up his visit, the first to Morocco by a German foreign minister for 18 years, as satisfactory.

It was learned from the German side that Morocco is evidently most dissatisfied with the mandate which the EEC Commission has been given by the governments for new negotiations with the Mediterranean countries. The mandate allows little scope and offers no "prospects" for Morocco, where about 3 million people are directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture. The German side said Genscher promised that Bonn will support Morocco's rightful interests. He also pointed out, however, that Morocco could make use of the opportunities offered by the further development of the community by beginning in the longer term to restructure its economy. The Moroccan side favorably received Genscher's proposals for preparing the way for more industrial investment through direct contacts with German industry. German delegation sources said Genscher showed understanding for Morocco's desire for greater German economic and financial assistance. At present it receives less than DM50 million, which is only half the amount which the Federal Republic gives to smaller Tunisia.

The issue of future economic relations between the EEC and the Maghreb is likely to play a major role in Genscher's visit to Tunisia. He will arrive in Tunis this evening and spend a day in discussions with the Tunisian Government before returning to Bonn Saturday.

DPA Report on Talks

LD131621 Hamburg DPA in German 1523 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rabat, 13 Feb (DPA) — Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on Thursday suggested increased European-Arab contacts to fight terrorism and to solve its fundamental problem and the Palestinians' right to self-determination. On the first day of his almost 2-day visit to Rabat Genscher promised his Moroccan counterpart Abdellatif Filali that the EEC foreign ministers will examine the possibility of Near East involvement by the European countries at their next meeting in late February.

During the 2-hour exchange of views between the two foreign ministers, Genscher reaffirmed that the FRG and her EEC partners continue to stand by the EEC's 1980 Venice Declaration on the Near East, delegation circles said. He further spoke in favor of supporting King Husayn of Jordan's peace efforts and those of other moderate governments.

Genscher and Filali agreed during the discussions to introduce a "new dynamic" into the relations between the two countries.In answer to the Moroccan worries expressed by Filali that agricultural exports to the EEC might be harmed by Spain's and Portugal's entry, Genscher said that Bonn will support as far as it is able Rabat's interests in the forthcoming talks between the EEC Commission and the states adjoining the Mediterranean. He said that the reduciton of the hitherto high external tariffs of the Iberian countries to the EEC level has increased the sales opportunities for industrial goods from Morocco.

During a toast in the evening, Genscher once more emphasized the connection between terrorism and the unsolved Near East problem. "The bloody trail of terrorism which runs through the Near East states as clearly as it does through Europe is a frightening warning that the time has at last come to deal with the unsolved Near East problem firmly and decisively." The EEC is prepared to develop "operative ideas" as a contribution to bringing renewed impetus to the peace efforts of those immediately concerned.

SUDAN

Uganda Delegation Met With Okello Group in Juba

EA132049 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic
1930 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Mr Felix Onama, head of the Ugandan delegation that visited the country recently, has stressed that Sudanese officials have stated that not an inch of Sudanese territory will be used for attacks on Uganda or any other state.

Mr Onama added that the delegation had visited Juba town and met a delegation from General Okello. The changes that have occurred in Uganda were explained. The fact that the new government's policies are not based on racial or religious discrimination was pointed out. Mr Onama asked Okello's representatives to convey this offer [as heard] to members of the former government who are in Sudan.

Official Confers With Romanian, Somali Envoys

JN131019 Khartoum SUNA in English 0935 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 13 (SUNA) —TMC Member Gen. Yusuf Husayn and the ambassador of Romania yesterday reviewed the outcome of Husayn's recent visit to Bucharest. Husayn said the Romanian officials had promised to send drugs and medical equipment to Sudan, to increase scholarships for Sudanese students and to set up agricultural and industrial projects with their cost to be paid out of their revenue.

He said the Romanians and also agreed to cooperate with Sudan in the petroleum sphere. The Sudanese-Romanian ministerial committee was agreed to meet on Feb. 26 to discuss promotion of bilateral cooperation he said. He said President Ceasescu has invited Gen. Siwar al-Dhahab and Premier Dafʻallah to visit Romania. Meanwhile General Husayn also received yesterday the ambassador of Somalia and discussed with him bilateral relations and the political situation in the region.

Committee Formed To Monitor Integration With Egypt

JN131234 Khartoum SUNA in English 1034 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum, Feb. 13 (SUNA) — The Council of Ministers yesterday decided to form a ministerial committee to devise a definite plan on the process on integration between Sudan and Egypt. The Council assigned its premier to take the appropriate measures for safeguarding the neutrality of the civil service and prohibiting government employees from practicing politics. The Council urged the economic ministerial committee to continue imposing the government's resolution on combatting smuggling of goods.

Clashes At Cairo University Branch in Khartoum

JN131807 Khartoum SUNA in English 1745 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Khartoum Feb 13 (SUNA) — Clashes continued today for the second day in Cairo University branch campus between different political factions.

The clashes caused the injury of 7 students and a policeman. Students at the university said the clashes took place when the political committee which comprises mainly the leftists held a symposium at the campus and decided to start a sit-in protesting the dissmisal of a student female from the boarding house.

The Moslem Brothers an offshoot of the National Islamic Front attacked the other wing in a bid to stop the sit-in.

The political committee group has suceeded to start their sit-in but clashes continued again, a matter which led to the interference of riot police.

Police sources reaffirmed its full control over the situation in order to avoid any further clashes.

The clashes started current week when the students union dominated by the Moslem Brothers dismissed a student from the boarding house because she facilitated a journalist job on interviewing the students living in the boarding house.

CAMEROON

Chadian Envoy Delivers Message to Biya; Comments

AB071318 Yaounde Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Ndjamena is fighting very hard to recover Chad's territorial integrity. This was stated this afternoon by Chadian envoy Mbaibikel Ngarari following the audience granted him by the head of state at the Palais de l'Unite. Mr Ngarari, who is secretary of state for interior and administrative reform, specified that he had delivered to President Paul Biya a message from his counterpart, Hissein Habre, concerning the presence of Chadian refugees in Cameroon. According to the envoy, many of these refugees have been expressing the desire to return to Chad.

The envoy also talked to the national press about bilateral cooperation. He told Michel Abanda:

[Begin recording] [Ngarari] I was bearer of a message from President El-Hadj Hissein Habre to his brother President Paul Biya. The message concerns the position of our compatriots whom Cameroon kindly welcomed to its territory. Among these compatriots, we distinguished two categories: those who came before the events we experienced and those who came here because of the events. We are now aware of the manifest desire of these refugees to return home, particularly those of them who had fled the territory as a result of the events.

[Abanda] Mr Minister, what is now the atmosphere inside Chad as far as security is concerned?

[Ngarari] If you mean the situation inside the Chadian borders, the problem is quite serious. [Passage indistinct] As you know, quite a large part of the territory is occupied by Libyan forces. I simply want to reassure you that, in the part of the territory under our government's control, there is complete security and calm.

[Abanda] You have talked about Chad as a whole. Does one not have some impression that Ndjamena's Chad is getting somewhat bogged down in the present situation, the situation of division?

[Ngarari] Ndjamena is fighting very hard to recover the integrity of the territory. Ndjamena is not getting bogged down anywhere. It is a question of means. The colonel of Tripoli possesses means of war that Ndjamena lacks. But we remain confident.

[Abanda] May I know the main projects Cameroon and Chad are now examining and how are the two countries cooperating as far as Chad's reconstruction is concerned?

[Nagarari] Cameroon and Chad are united first of all by historical, economic, and (?sociocultural) ties. Also, there iscooperation within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Commission. As far as agriculture is concerned, Chad and Cameroon are organizing themselves and are doing everything to ensure the development of their agriculture. [End recording]

Biya Accepts Reagan Invitation To Visit U.S.

AB131512 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The head of state, President Paul Biya, will make an official work visit to the United States of America as from 27 February. The work visit is on the invitation of the U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Nation Will Not Attend Francophone Summit

AB131520 Yaounde Domestic Service in English
1400 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cameroon will not take part in the first Franco-African summit [as heard] to take place in Paris soon. This was revealed by Guy Penne, special French adviser on African affairs to President Francois Mitterrand during a stopover in Yaounde on his tour of some selected African countries. (?Asked about his audience) with President Paul Biya, the special French-African affairs advisor said he discussed the situation in Chad with the head of state. Mr Guy Penne has been to Chad and Gabon respectively.

CHAD

CDR Reported Preparing for Talks With Ndjamena

AB071454 Paris AFP in English 1415 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, Feb 7 (AFP) — One of Chad's most important opposition groups, the Democratic Revolutionary Council [CDR], is preparing to negotiate with the Ndjamena Government, apparently unbeknown to its leader who is visiting Paris.

The CDR's European representative, Thiam Tidjani, said today that he did not think the movement's Secretary-General Acheikh Ibn Oumar would disapprove of the presence of the CDR delegation here, but added, "if he disagrees, he would exclude himself."

And Mr Tidjani said the CDR should withdraw from the Transitional Government of National Union (GUNT) headed by Goukouni Oueddei, which is still holding the northern part of Chad with Libyan backing after being ousted from Ndjamena by the forces of Hissein Habre in June 1982.

A CDR splinter group, the CDR Committee for Action and Coordination, headed by Senoussi Khatir, signed a reconciliation agreement with Ndjamena here on November 11 last year. It was followed by another small opposition movement, the Chadian Democratic Front of Dibril Djogo, on December 23.

Mr Tidjani said, "We are in Libreville to seek a negotiated solution to the Chadian problem."

Mr Ibn Oumar, who was held prisoner either by Mr Oukouni or the Libyans for several months last year, had talks in Paris today with Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's adviser on African affairs. Before leaving Tripoli for Paris he had said he would be informing the French authorities of "the newfound unity of the GUNT and his ideas on a political settlement of the Chadian conflict."

The CDR leader also said he would be going on to a number of African capitals, including Dakar, Brazzaville and Libreville.

Tidjani Expelled From CDR

AB081618 Paris AFP in French 1225 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 8 Feb (AFP) — Thiam Tidjani, the European representative of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, one of the major components of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], the armed opposition group fighting against Hissein Habre), was expelled today from the movement.

In a press statement issued today in Paris, CDR Secretary General Acheikh Ibn Oumar accused Thiam Tidjani — currently in Libreville where he expressed favor for the opening of negotiations with Ndjamena — of having used his name. He tried, the statement continued, to engage the CDR, "an integral part of the GUNT [words indistinct] in a purely individual manner without in any way being mandated to do so on such a crucial question as national reconciliation in Chad at a time when the very physical existence of the state and people of Chad is a problem."

Thiam Tidjani, the statement added, did not only show an irresponsible lack of seriousness, but also put an end to his own [words indistinct], as well as his [words indistinct].

The minister of state for the coordination of GUNT and the CDR secretary general finally urged "the soldiers of the National Liberation Army, Chadian progressive forces, and Chad's friendly countries to double their vigilance in order to abort all maneuvers to sow confusion and to prevent the search for a veritable negotiated solution to the Chadian problem.

CDR Official on France's Role in Negotiations

AB112210 Paris AFP in French 1820 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 11 Feb (AFP) — France is an "unavoidable actor" in the political solution of the Chadian conflict, although it has often played the role of "the ruffian and the swindler, never a good role," Acheikh Ibn Oumar, Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] minister of state for coordination stated Tuesday at a press conference in Paris.

Acheikh Ibn Oumar, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, one of the major components of GUNT), has for 1 week now been leading an official mission of "information and explanation" to the French authorities. "The Ndjamena regime thank only French military support," he said, and the support of France, to which we are historically linked, can be valid in the field of reconciliation." [quotation marks as received]

After emphasizing that GUNT "existed quite well militarily and politically," he indicated that the situation in Chad remained "extremely serious" despite a "relatively long" lull in (fighting). It is, therefore, crucial and urgent that contacts should be made at all levels in order to arrive at a national reconciliation between the GUNT and the Ndjamena group.

Speaking about the clashes that occured on Monday at Kouba Olanga, about 550 km north of Ndjamena, Acheikh Ibn Oumar states that it concerns a well located in a no-man's land where frequent patrols from both sides often results in friction.

"Libya's role is to support the National Liberation Army (ANL), he said. There is no real Libyan army in northern Chad. It is the ANL that holds the positions with the help of a few Libyans in the areas of technical assistance, supply, and logistics. It is out of the question to let Libya play any other role than that of support."

After Paris, Acheikh Ibn Oumar will go to Lagos, Libreville, and to Benin.

Official Meets With Guy Penne

AB081811 Paris AFP in French 1700 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 7 Feb (AFP) — Mr Acheikh Ibn Oumar, secretary general of the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), one of the most important components of the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] (armed opposition to Chadian President Hissein Habre), held discussions in Paris on Friday morning with Mr Guy Penne, African affairs adviser to the president of France.

Mr Ibn Oumar, who arrived in Paris last Monday, is charged with an "information and explanation" mission, according to the GUNT spokesman in Paris, Mr Abderrahmane Moussa. The spokesman added that Mr Ibn Oumar, who holds the position of minister of state for coordination within the GUNT, had met Mr Michel Chatelais, director of African and Madagascan affairs, at the Quai d'Orsay [French Foreign Office] on Thursday. Mr Moussa said the discussions were held in a "good atmosphere."

Before leaving Tripoli, Mr Ibn Oumar had told some journalists that he will inform his French hosts about "the rediscovered unity of the GUNT and its conceptions of a political settlement of the Chadian conflict."

Station Commentary

AB122226 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] While the Libyans are massively engaging themselves in Chad, some individuals in their pay have been cynically asserting the contrary. And yet we have irrefutable proof.

Listening to statements at this time on some radio stations, we have the right to wonder what is in the minds of certain foreign journalists. In its analysis, the station commentary yesterday exposed the skepticisms of a certain foreign press in the hands of the subversionists. But what is most revealing for Chadians is the fact that some individuals shamelessly use certain press organs that are supposed to be objective, to spread Libyan propaganda.

An example of this is what was said by a certain Acheikh Ibn Oumar. Acheikh, who was released after nearly a year of imprisonment, has magically gained the status of a politician with an important amount of influence in Chad. This puppet has been propelled onto the stage and allowed to speak on radios to tell lies. The man who is being presented as the third man said this morning, for example, that it was the troops of the so-called National Liberation Army that attacked government positions at Kouba Olanga and Oum Chalouba-Kalait. But, as the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, Comrade Gouara Lassou said, realities on the battleground, like seized documents such as identity cards issued by the Libyan Army, prove that it was mercenaries and the Libyan Army who attacked the positions of the Chadian National Armed Forces. We saw these documents, which are authentic and which have been verified. The photographs, the writing, the color of the documents are all elements [words indistinct].

But why this attitude? That is the question. This question for the forewarned Chadian essentially disproves that Acheikh Ibn Oumar is the head of any faction. Acheikh is the one who the Libyans imprisoned for a long time and who is, at present, paying the price for his release from Libyan prison because it is difficult to understand how someone who was destined to be executed by Al-Qadhdhafi has suddenly emerged on the political scene. The Chadian authorities have often repeated that the Transitional National Union Government does not exist. They are puppets and traitors who owe their existence [words indistinct] only to the Libyan umbrella, to Libyan salvation. We know that their faction's Libyan inventions begun in June 1982. So the scenario was mounted from Tripoli to Seba and consists of the construction of a pseudo-opposition movement with an outmoded name, the GUNT, whose initial mission was not and could never be in the interest of the Chadian nation.

This is why Acheikh has left prison today with very precise instructions — that of reciting the Libyan stand to predesignated interlocuters. It is to force the militants to accept the establishment in Ndjamena of a government that would facilitate the annexation of Chad by Libya. That is the crux of the matter, coupled with the personal considerations of an individual. Acheikh is seeking his own rehabilitation. It is true that one does not die of shame, but what the spokesmen of the slave traders should realize is that the realities on the battleground have, indeed, been established. The fighting is, indeed, taking place. Elements of proof exist with the seizure of documents and the capturing of prisoners.

One fact about the government of the Third Republic is that Chad respects the sovereignty of states. Individuals may therefore be received by any country, but it is this sovereignty that Chad would like to be recognized because we are a state. This has nothing in common with an organization of individuals seeking recognition by an another state, or by international opinion, such as the residue of an institution that merely exists in name and which is complacently called the GUNT. The government of the Third Republic does not practice the policy of [word indistinct]. This government does not need to, since the government of the Third Republic has proven its worth. It is a government that did not seek its legality at Cotonou, Accra, or Libya. Nowhere. It is a government that does not need to be a vassal, since it is accepted by a people who have suffered for too long from slavery and feudalism. This is the real state of affairs in Chad and the victory of the determined fighting Chadian people against the enemies of Chad from all quarters will be a brilliant one. Libya has learned this lesson once more to its detriment. Chad, and the Chadian people, are determined to defend their territorial integrity.

Penne Meets With Habre, Talks to Reporters

AB131120 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1845 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] President Mitterrand's special adviser for African affairs arrived in our capital early this morning. Mr Guy Penne, who was immediately received for 1 hour by the president of the Republic, El-Hadj Hissein Habre, left shortly after for another destination, Libreville. Before leaving Ndjamena, he answered questions by press representatives. He said:

[Begin recording] [Penne] I am accompanied by [words indistinct]. We are on a tour of Africa. We will soon go to Libreville to meet with President Bongo and tomorrow I will be in Lome, where I will meet with General Eyadema. I took the opportunity of this tour to make a stopover in Ndjamena in order to meet with President Hissein Habre. This morning, I was received for more than 1 hour by President Hissein Habre. It is evident that in view of the events that have just occurred here in Chad, our discussions were [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Penne] Listen, for a long time, we have known through announcements and what I would call psychological preparations [words indistinct] that something was going to happen on the 16th parallel. A few days ago, I received a delegation of the Transitional National Union Government in Paris. The delegation told me that it believed that any intervention in Chad would cause disaster among the Chadians. [Passage indistinct] The president of the Republic of France has often repeated that there can be no military solution to the Chadian problem [words indistinct]

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]

[Penne] I do not think that this problem is on the agenda of the conference of the heads of state and government of French-speaking countries. [Passage indistinct]

[Reporter] Mr Adviser, France has a very important role to play in the Chadian crisis. What assistance should Chad expect from France? Will France's role be a military one or will it be only political?

[Penne] [Passage indistinct]

FDT Approves Reconciliation Agreement

AB112149 Paris AFP in French 1858 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 11 Feb (AFP) — The National Council of the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT), at its meeting held from 7 to 10 February in Libreville, approved the reconciliation agreement signed with Ndjamena by General Jibril Negue-Djogo in the Gabonese capital on 23 December 1985.

It is recalled that this reconciliation agreement, which was signed between the FDT and the Ndjamena government, particularly provides for the release of all the political prisoners, a "minor cabinet reshuffle," and the participation of the FDT "in the management of the state at all levels."

During a press conference on Tuesday, the FDT president, Gen Negue-Djogo, called on "all the Chadians who are still in exile to follow the path of peace," for Chad "is always threatened in its existence." According to him, reconciliation between all Chadians is necessary to "prevent foreign powers from having a pretext to intervene in Chad."

Questioned on the fighting in Kouba Olanga (northern Chad), which was announced by Ndjamena on Monday, Gen Negue-Djogo felt that "there was no major risk of a resumption of the armed conflict in Chad now."

Delegation Leaves for Gabon to Meet Opposition

AB132042 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Chadian authorities remain constant in their national reconciliation policy, even though this policy has been rendered secondary because of the Libyan aggression, which remains the fundamental problem. Thus, the Government of Chad has sent a delegation to the Gabonese capital. The delegation is led by Amos Reoulengar, secretary of state for economy and finance.

The arrival in the Gabonese capital of the government delegation coincides with the presence of Thiam Tidjani, former member of the Revolutionary Democratic Council [CDR] and spokesman of that faction in Paris. Another Chadian opposition personality is Colonel Kotiga, leader of the Red Codos of the Moyen Chari. Col Kotiga also arrived in Libreville yesterday.

It should be recalled that Thiam Tidjani recently withdrew from the CDR group by saying that he favored negotions with the government of the Third Republic.

100,000 Demonstrate for Government in Ndjamena

AB132036 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] There is no weapon stronger than the determination of a people to defend their freedom. There is no weapon more efficient than the determination of a people to fight against any enemy in defense of the fatherland. Examples in world history are numerous. The people have always overcome their attackers, they have always defeated their invaders, and we do not need to look for examples elseshere. Our country, Chad, is experiencing this situation. Through their willpower, motivation, and determination of our fighting forces, our valiant Chadian National Armed Forces [FANT] are inflicting heavy losses on the Libyan annexationists, who, in their vain attempt to annex Chad, have been fleeing from artillery fire of the Chadian National Armed Forces.

As the executive secretary of the Executive Bureau of the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], Comrade Gouara Lassou said this morning, victory is certain because our cause is a just one. Spurred on by this hope and by the fairness and nobility of the cause that the FANT is defending, militants of the UNIR regional committees of Ndjamena, [name indistinct], and Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti, jointly organized a mammoth demonstration this morning. This demonstration was in support of the president of the Republic and UNIR founding chairman, supreme head of the Army for the noble mission of national reconciliation consistently undertaken since the beginning of the Third Republic. Though the president of the Republic, the militants expressed their support for our valiant FANT, which currently is fighting the enemies and their mercenaires, and infamous Islamic legion. This morning there was a lot of activity on the main roads of the capital: Bokassa Avenue, Mobutu Avenu, and Avenue Charles de Gaulle were full of life. More than 100,000 people took to the streets to express their anger.

The motion of support for the UNIR founding chairman, which was presented this morning to the executive secretary of the Executive Bureau of the UNIR Central Committee, Comrade Gouara Lassou, expressed the commitment, the general mobilization, and the determination of UNIR militants to fight this war against the fascist Libyans, and to acheive final victory.

'Enemy' Attack Reported on Forces at Ziguey

AB131928 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Confused enemies took the risk of attacking the position of our fighting forces at Ziguey today at 1600. The Chadian National Armed Forces reacted vigorously and are currently chasing away the invaders.

Envoy Comments on Attack

AB131930 Paris AFP in French 1842 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 13 Feb (AFP) — "Libyan forces attacked the Ziguey government post, some 300 km north of Ndjamena, in western Chad and south of the 16th parallel, Allam-mi Ahmad, Chadian ambassador to France stated on Thursday in Paris.

Also on Thursday, "Libyan troops" increased their pressure on Oum Chalouba, some 750 km north-west of Ndjamena, where armed clashes have been taking place for the past 48 hours.

This offensive, Mr Allam-mi said, is "a confirmation of Tripoli's strategy, which consists of imposing on the international community its solution of the Chadian problem by maintaining its military contingent and by installing in Ndjamena a government loyal to it."

Asked about current diplomatic moves aimed at finding a political solution to the Chadian conflict, Mr Allam-mi wondered about the role played by "certain friendly countries that, unconsciously, have fallen into Libyan snares," he said. "The Chadian Government has never refused to negotiate with the opposition and agreements concluded recently in Libreville with some factions of the opposition prove this," he added.

"The pressure supposedly necessary to be brought upon Ndjamena is therefore unfounded and can only constitute an excuse for the Libyan offensive," the Chadian ambassador said. "By this offensive, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is posing a challenge at the Chadian people, African countries, and friends of Chad. We have appealed to France and we hope the response will be commensurate with Tripoli's challenge. This is no longer the time to hesitate, but to act in the face of an enemy who does not understand diplomatic language."

On his part, the spokesman of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — armed opposition to Hissein Habre) blamed the responsibility for the fighting on the Ndjamena forces, and reaffirmed that Kouba Olanga (550 km northeast of Ndjamena) and Oum Chalouba were under his control. "Enemy elements are in disarray and they are being pursued near the town of Biltone (90 km north of Abeche," a communique added.

Finally the GUNT called on "all friendly countries and others" to avoid "intervening or inflaming this conflict, which is purely a Chadian one."

Fighting in Oum Chalouba Area Continues

AB131821 Paris AFP in French 1648 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Ndjamena, 13 Feb (AFP) — Fighting between the government Army and the Transitional National Union Government forces of Goukouni Oueddei was going on Thursday early in the afternoon at Oum Chalouba (325 km southeast Faya-Largeau), Chadian Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila announced in Ndjamena.

The minister has added, in a statement to the AFP, that fighting in Oum Chalouba, which entered its third day, had already caused "heavy losses" in the enemies' ranks. He further stated that the announcement of the acceleration of military equipment supply to Chad by France "is in line with Ndjamena's preoccupations, and is also an answer to" the wishes it has expressed in this regard.

Anti-Libyan Rallys Held

LD131550 Paris International Service in French
1245 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Chad: It seems that fighting is continuing around Oum Chalouba, almost 750 kms northeast of Ndjamena, where there was a demonstration of support this morning for the Chadian forces. According to our colleague Celestin Topona, 100,000 people took to the streets, shouting slogans hostile to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, all this took place an atmosphere of general mobilization.

The Chadian leadership has announced that the locality of Koro-Toro has been attacked by Libyan forces. Ndjamena radio has just announced that it has been taken back by the Chadian National Armed Forces, the FANT. The radio is still broadcasting military music and announcing that the Libyan forces are using heavy weapons, particularly heavy artillery. It is to be noted in passing that the Transitional National Union Government is denying that the Libyans are taking part in the fighting directly.

It appears that Guy Penne took advantage of his stopover in Libreville to meet the leader of the Moyen-Chari Codos [southern rebels], Colonel Alphonse Kotiga. The latter had been in the Gabonese capital for 24 hours. Guy Penne's agenda for today includes a quick visit to Yaounde in Cameroon, where he is expected by President Paul Biya. Also on today's agenda is a stopover at Lome in Togo.

GUNT: 700 Troops Captured

AB140804 Paris AFP in French 0727 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Feb (AFP) — The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT — Chadian opposition to President Hissein Habre's regime) announced on Thursday evening in Tripoli that it has captured 700 prisoners during the fighting that broke out between its troops and those of the Ndjamena regime in the northern part of Chad on Monday. According to Biasoumil Nadjita Yonhombel, the GUNT's minister of economy and finance, the opponents of Chadian President Hissein Habre captured 250 prisoners in the Kouba-Olanga region (550 kms northeast of Ndjamena) and 450 in the Oum Chalouba region (750 kms northeast of the Chadian capital). The GUNT also recovered 13 Brazilian-made Cascavel tanks, two of which were damaged and 11 in good condition, as well as a number heavy weapons and vehicles, Mr Biasoumil added.

"We lost an armoured car on the Oum Chalouba-Kalait front. We suffered five casualities and some wounded soldiers," he pointed out to AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE]. Mr Biasoumil said that these pieces of news were obtained from the GUNT's representatives in Sheba (Libya) and following communications with the interior of Chad. He stressed that the GUNT will soon demonstrate to the international opinion "the reality" of the fighting being carried out by the "fighters of the GUNT and not by Libyans." In conclusion, he said that the GUNT still controls Kouba Olanga and Oum Chalouba.

According to Ndjamena, the Chadian Armed Forces had quickly regained control of Kouba Olanga (taken over on Monday by the GUNT's forces), while fighting continued on Thursday afternoon at Oum-Chalouba.

Both Sides Claim Successes As Quiles Arrives

AU141127 Paris AFP in English 1111 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, Feb 14 (AFP) — The Chadian Government and its Libyan-backed opponents today both claimed success in renewed fighting in the north of the country, as French Defence Minister Paul Quiles began talks with the Ndjamena authorities on stepping up military aid to them.

Ndjamena's ambassador to paris, Ahmad allam-Mi said today that government forces were pursuing "routed Libyan troops" after repulsing an attack on Ziguey, 300 km (180 miles) north of the capital. Ziguey is well south of the 16th-parallel defence line established by the French when they sent in troops to stop the last rebel drive on Ndjamena in 1983.

"The situation is totally under the control of our forces in the Koro Toro and Kouba Olanga sectors, respectively 600 km (375 miles) and 550 km (350 miles) northeast of Ndjamena, and there has been no fighting there since Wednesday," the ambassador said.

On the other hand, the situation remains "lorrying" at Oum Chalouba, 750 km (465 miles) north of the capital, where "Libyan pressure" was increasing, Mr. Allam-mi added.

He denied a claim made yesterday by the rebel Transitional Government of National Union (Gunt) that government forces had lost the important towns of Arada and Biltine. However, GUNT spokesmen in Paris, Brussels and Tripoli said rebel forces had scored major successes, capturing 700 prisoners as well as weapons, armoured cars and other vehicles at little loss to themselves.

The GUNT's "minister for economy and finance," Biasoumil Nadjita, said in Tripoli that no Libyan troops were involved in the fighting. The GUNT, heaed by Goukouni Oueddeei, still holds large areas of the north after being ousted from power in Ndjamena by the present ruler, Hissein Habre, in 1982.

Observers here in the French capital have noted that the new fighting, which follows a lull of almost a year, comes just one month before the legislative elections in France, which supports the Habre government.

France had troops in Chad from August 1983 to November 1984. President Francois Mitterrand came under criticism for having pulled out the troops, despite of the fact that Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had reneged on an agreement to pull his forces out of the north at the same time.

French President Francois Mitterrand said today he was following the developing situation in Chad "very closely," but he had not been in contact with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Speaking to reporters on a train taking him to Nevers, central France, Mr Mitterrand said he was awaiting a report on the situation from Mr Quiles. He noted that in a desert war like that of Chad "the attacker always has the advantage, but, afterwards, because of the distances involved, the situation is often reversed."

GABON

Chadian Delegation Arrives; Guy Penne Expected

AB121246 Paris AFP in French 1125 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 12 Feb (AFP) — A Chadian Government delegation, led by Mr Amos Raoulengar, secretary of state for economy and commerce, arrived in Libreville Wednesday morning.

This arrival coincides with the presence in the Gabonese capital of Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, leader of the "Codos Rouges" [a guerrilla group] of Moyen-Chari (southern Chad), who arrived there from Cameroon Tuesday night, according to a reliable source. Also, still visiting Libreville is Mr Thiam Tidjani, who has just been expelled from the Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR, an armed Chadian opposition movement and member of the Transitional National Union Government) of which he was the spokesman in Europe. Last week, Mr Tidjani publicly spoke in favor of a negotiation with the Ndjamena authorities.

Meanwhile, it has been recalled that the conference of the Chadian Democratic Front (FDT), which signed a reconciliation agreement with Ndjamena on 23 December, was held in Libreville from 7 to 10 February. Its members, who are led by General Negue Djogo, are still in the Gabonese capital.

Finally, Mr Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African affairs, will arrive in the Gabonese capital on Wednesday.

Penne Ends Visit, Leaves for Cameroon, Togo

AB130920 Paris AFP in French 0757 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Libreville, 13 Feb (AFP) — France is to accelerate its aid to Chad in the area of weapons and equipment. This was stated Thursday morning in Libreville by Guy Penne, special adviser for African affairs to French President Francois Mitterrand. According to the French presidential adviser, the authorities in Ndjamena attribute the sudden rise of tension in the northern part of the country to the fact Tripoli believes the time is particularly favorable because of the French electoral campaign. Another reason is the reconciliation accords signed in recent months in Libreville between Ndjamena and various opposition movements.

Mr Guy Penne arrived in Libreville on Wednesday morning in the company of Joseph Franceschi, French secretary of state for elderly persons. He held several talks with Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

It is also said that the special adviser to President Mitterrand used the opportunity of this visit, which was scheduled several weeks ago, to meet in particular Colonel Alphonse Kotiga, leader of the "Red Codos" of the Moyen-Chari region (maquisards of the southern part of Chad) who arrived in the Gabonese capital Tuesday night. Mr Penne left Libreville early Thursday for Yaounde, where he will be received by Cameroonian President Paul Biya. He will leave a few hours later for Lome.

Chadian Factions Pursue Reconciliatory Efforts

AB131622 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1230 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Excerpt] There is a lot of diplomatic activity in Libreville, Gabon. At the center of this activity is national reconciliation in Chad. Several heads of factions are meeting in the Gabonese capital. This meeting proves the determination of each and every one to end this fratricidal war that is tearing their country apart.

One of the delegations present in Libreville is the Chadian Democratic Front [FDT] of General Negue Djogo, which is holding its national council meeting, a meeting that will enable the Executive Bureau to report to the higher echelons of the movement, the National Council, on the contents of the agreement signed on 23 December 1985 with the Ndjamena government, a procedure that has been described as abnormal since the council should have been informed before the agreement was signed. Apart from this disagreement, members of the National Council of the FDT consider that the agreement has a catalytic effect that could promote national reconciliation in Chad.

Arab League's Klibi Ends visit, Speaks to Press

AB081300 Paris AFP in French 1114 GMT 8 Feb 86

[Text] Libreville, 8 Feb (AFP) — Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Libreville on Friday evening after a 24-hour visit to Gabon during which he was received by Gabonese President Omar Bongo.

Gabon "can play a leading role in Arab-African cooperation," Mr Klibi said before his departure. He also stressed that the agricultural food sector in Gabon should "interest Arab and in particular Kuwait capitals." The secretary general of the Arab League later noted that Arab-African cooperation "was developing in a satisfactory manner." "This cooperation," he stressed, "has led to a financial transfer of more than $9 billion in less than 10 years."

Mr Klibi also pointed out that this cooperation was not being effected with the aim of "winning the political support of either party," but that it was based on the "common feeling of belonging to the Third World." "It is a way of implementing South-South cooperation," he concluded.

ZAIRE

Parliamentarian Receives Soviet Charge d'Affaires

AB121151 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1830 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 12 Feb (AZAP) — On Tuesday, Citizen Kalume Mwana Kahambwe, first vice president of the Legislative Council, received from the hands of Pavel Krylov, charge d'affaires of the Soviet Embassy in Zaire, a declaration by the commissions on foreign affairs of the Council of the Union and the Council of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The ceremony took place at the Palace of the Nation.

In the declaration, the commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet expressed happiness with the decision of the UN General Assembly to declare 1986 an international year for peace and also expressed their support for its major objectives and programs. To promote a practical march toward a nuclear and chemical weapons-free world and finally toward an arms-free world, the document read, a new impulse must be given to all factors of the mechanism for the limitation of armament and for disarmament. Finally, the commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet expressed their hope that during this year, efforts by all governments, parliaments and peoples in their struggle to achieve a better turningpoint in world affairs, will be strenghtened.

According to the Soviet diplomat, Citizen Kalume highly appreciated the declaration and expressed support for the struggle by all peoples to achieve peace.

BENIN

ANR Chairman Receives Soviet Ambassador

AB131205 Cotonou Domestic Service in French
1930 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] This morning, the chairman of the permanent committee of the ANR (Revolutionary National Assembly), Comrade Romain Vilon Guezo, received in audience the Soviet ambassador to Benin, his excellency, (Valentin Pavlov). After the audience, the Soviet ambassador briefed the press on talks with Comrade Vilon Guezo.

[Begin (Pavlov) recording] The discussions I just held with the chairman of the ANR permanent committee touched on bilateral issues and bilateral cooperation. A cooperation which develops smoothly in all fields, including the ties between our two parliaments. I take this opportunity to announce the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union of an ANR delegation. I am convinced that this visit will help to further strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation which link our two parliaments. Our discussions also touched on the program of nuclear disarmament issued last 15 January by the CPSU general secretary, Comrade Gorbachev. [end recording]

His excellency Valentin Pavlov also informed Comrade Vilon Guezo of the preparatory meetings of the 22nd CPSU congress whose deliberations will start on 25 February.

GUINEA

Communique Issued on Visit by Liberia's Doe

AB131055 Conakry Domestic Service in French
1945 GMT 12 Feb 86

["Press Communique" issued in Conakry on the 1-day working visit by Liberian President Samuel Doe to Guinea on 12 February — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Press communique issued after the working meeting between their excellencies Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, and Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the Military Committee of National Recovery [CMRN], president of the Republic of Guinea:

Within the framework of the necessary strengthening of political and moral unity of the African peoples and within the framework of promoting relations of sincere friendship and brotherly cooperation between the Republic of Liberia and the Republic of Guinea, his excellency Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, met in Conakry, Republic of Guinea, on Wednesday, 12 February 1986, his excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the CMRN, president of the Republic of Guinea. The two heads of state reviewed the international political situation and issues of common interest. On African issues, the two heads of state reiterated their unflinching support and their active solidarity to the African peoples struggling for their national independence and stressed the need to increase aid to liberation movements with a view to stepping up the process of elimination of the last bastion of colonialism in Africa, symbolized by apartheid.

In light of Africa's critical situation, the two heads of state welcomed the convening of a special session of the United Nations next May to consider the issue. The two leaders believe that this happy occasion will give Africa and other developing countries the opportunity to sensitive developed countries and the international opinion on the danger posed to international peace and security by the ever widening gap between developed countries on one hand and poor countries on the other.

The two heads of state examined the relations of cooperation between the two countries with a view to determining the immediate areas in which they can be implemented. To this end, the two heads of state deemed it fit to set up a grand joint cooperation commissioned which will draw up a scheduled for the meetings of experts of the two sides.

At the end of his visit, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, president of the Republic of Liberia, expressed his fraternal gratitude to his excellency Brigadier Lansana Conte, chairman of the CMRN and president of the Republic of Guinea, for the African hospitality given him and his delegation. In view of the good relations existing between their two countries, President Samuel Kanyon Doe invited President Lansana Conte to visit Liberia and the invitation was accepted with pleasure. The date for this visit will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

Issued in Conakry on 12 February 1986

LIBERIA

Minister Warns Students Against Political Actions

AB120932 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
0655 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Justice Minister Jenkins Scott has warned that political activities on the campus of the University of Liberia are not allowed and even if it was, any student taking part in such activities are treading on dangerous ground. Mr Scott's remarks came at a news conference late Monday afternoon [14 Feb] with a VOA correspondent at the Ministry of Justice. He said students desiring to form political parties may believe their activities are in keeping with constitutional guarantee of free association but cautioned those who take it upon themselves to interpret the constitution may be taking serious risks. He said nowhere in the constitution does it say students can form political parties. Those who persist in carrying on with such activities, he added, will be punished in accordance with the law. Minister Scott's comments came 2 days after students Unification Party of the University of Liberia issued an ultimatum to the president of the university, Mr Joseph Morris, demanding a lifting of the ban on campus political activities by 24 February. The students Unification Party resolution was issued after a mass rally on the university campus last Friday [7 Feb]. The document claimed that the students of the university have every right to exercise their constitutional rights, elect their own representives and should be a center for democratic practices for students and the society in general. The students did not specify what action they would take if the ban was not lifted by 24 February. It can be recalled that on 22 August 1984, military troops occupied the campus to end students political demonstration. There was no official casualty figure from the 2-day incident but there were reports of excessive force and maltreatment against students and faculties. All political activities on the university campus had been banned since that time.

PRC Cultural Delegation Meets With Karpeh

AB121358 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
2000 GMT 11 Feb 86

[Text] The visiting 5-man cultural delegation from the People's Republic of China today paid a courtesy call on Information Minister Carlton Karpeh at his Capitol Hill office in Monrovia. In a brief discussion with Minister Karpeh, the head of the delegation, Lu Zhixian, said their visit here was a reciprocation of the one paid by the director general of the Cultural Bureau, Mr Jonathan K. Kamara, in 1982. He lauded the cordial relations between Liberia and China which, he noted, have been strengthened with the visit of President Samuel K. Doe, the head of state, to Beijing in 1983.

Mr Lu Zhixian said the two countries could bridge the gap in communication between them through the exchange of (?personnel) and said his government was doing everything possible to conclude an agreement between LINA [Liberian News Agency] and the News China Agency [as heard] [word indistinct]. He hoped the cultural ties between both countries will continue to grow in the years ahead. He thanked Minister Karpeh and his staff for the kind reception accorded them.

NIGER

Kountche Grants Clemency to Common Law Prisoners

AB121411 Niamey Domestic Service in French
1200 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] The CMS [Supreme Military Council] president and head of state has signed a decree granting clemency to a certain number of people condemned for common law offences. This measure of clemency which concerns 306 people — men, women and children — is another proof of the CMS president and head of state's constant concern to render hommage to Niger women for their good qualities as spouses and mothers, to the aged, and to the youth of Niger on occasion of the international youth year.

NIGERIA

Minister Receives Hungarian, Bulgarian Envoys

AB121703 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Nigeria will continue to place emphasis on technical and economic cooperation with interested foreign partners. The minister of national planning, Dr Kalu Idika Kalu, stated this today when he received the Hungarian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr Jozsef Bende, in his office. He said that a lot could have been done by Nigeria and Hungary to achieve greater cooperation in the areas of education and agriculture. Dr Kalu stated that efforts were continuing to make the proposed joint commission between the two countries a reality before the end of the year. Earlier, the Hungarian ambassador promised to encourage business links between Hungarian private investors and their Nigerian counterparts.

As a separate meeting with the ambassador extraordinary of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Mr Dimitur Vulev, Dr Kalu expressed Nigeria's willingness to continue existing agreements with Bulgaria. He said that the Federal Government would use any opportunity offered by Bulagaria in the field of manpower development, and that credit facilities for Nigeria's priority projects would be utilized.

SENEGAL

Diouf-Led Cabinet Meeting Ratifies Conventions

AB121109 Dakar Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpt] The meeting of the Council of Ministers, which was held yesterday under the chairmanship of the head of state, was particularly busy. During the session, a framework of cooperation between Togo and Senegal was approved. Under this legal framework, a grand joint commission for cooperation between our two countries has been created.

Still during the same session, the Council examined and adopted six legal documents submitted by the minister of foreign affairs. The president of the republic ratified agreements, conventions, and treaties between our country and some sister African countries, namely Togo, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Benin, Cape Verde, and Mauritania. These are in the economic, social, technical, and cultural fields.

Speaking about the holding in Paris on 17-19 February 1986 of the summit conference of countries using a common language French — the head of state informed the Council that he will personally lead the Senegalese delegation to the summit. He instructed the ministers concerned to take the necessary measures and make adequate preparations to ensure Senegal's active participation.

Joint Commission With Mali Ends Deliberations

AB131030 Bamako Domestic Service in French
0700 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Deliberations of the Mali-Senegal joint commission for cooperation ended yesterday in Dakar. They were cochaired by Minister Alioune Blondin Beye and his Senegalese counterpart, Professor Ibrahima Fall. At the opening session, the two ministers stressed the necessity to take concrete recommendations which, alone, can be correctly implemented.

At the end of deliberations, the minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation will fly to Paris to take part in the preparatory meeting to the francophone summit.

Diouf Receives Beye

AB131325 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, Mali's minister of foreign affairs, was received early this afternoon by the president of the republic. After the meeting, the Malian foreign minister was interviewed by our reporter Pape Malick Gueye.

[Begin Beye recording] You have used the expression active time, I would even say that it was the sublime moment of this Senegal-Mali friendship week. For, there was the seventh session of the joint commission, but also this official visit which I am performing here, with a lot of interest, a lot of friendship and willing disposition from all the Senegalese authorities and people. I also wish first of all, with your permission, to thank respectfully and with respectful gratitude, the head of state for having received me for such a long duration. You saw it: over 1 hour. This gave me the priviledged opportunity to communicate a message from the president of the republic of Mali to his brother and friend which he had charged me to bring to him.

You wanted to know whether there are bottlenecks. I wish to say that bilateral cooperation between Mali and Senegal is in good shape. The president of the republic was saying just now — during this important audience — that in our bilateral relations, we should act henceforth in an examplary way. We must be an example for the South-South cooperation in which the two heads of state believe much, and which has to be built. The session of the joint commission has really proved that, for we have very good reason to be satisfied; for example in the field of freeing us from isolation which is the most important sector in our bilateral relations. Mali is landlocked country and we rely heavily on Senegal in overcoming our isolation internally and externally. And I have had the occasion to say that all means are being used. The roadway: Henceforth, the proposed Bamako-Dakar Road through the south has become a reality. The financing of surveys has been obtained, and they are being undertaken. For the Kaye-Tambacounda, road too, the project is in hand. In the area of — air transport, there are already, of course, the classic companies, but Air Mali and Air Senegal are going to make joint flights. And in the next few weeks or even days, you will see Air Senegal effecting the Dakar-Tambacounda -Bamako flight.

And if you take the waterways, very soon, thanks to the Manantali and Jama Dams, the Senegal River will be an access way for Mali. And if you take the railroad: that is the royal way because it is the oldest.

And finally, and most of all, I have to come back to it: there is the port. I must repeat that in that connection, Senegal has shown an admirable political will. Generally, it is unparalleled in worldwide economic affairs that part of the port of Dakar is considered as Malian territory. And this continues to be strengthened and to attain increasingly important dimensions. All these issues were examined not from the point of view of bottlenecks but for their strengthening. I must tell you, to be very honest with you, that even though there are so many reasons to be satisfied, there remains a topic which deserves all our attention. And it retains the attention of the president of the Republic of Senegal and my Senegalese brothers. That is the problem of trade exchanges. It is essential to harmonize it further. And the cola problem for which we have to find appropriate solutions. And none of these difficulties is beyond our strength, as the political will of the two leaders whom we are lucky to have at the head of our two countries is so great. [End recording]

PRC Vice Minister of Culture Begins Visit

AB121712 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Lu Zhixian, Chinese vice minister of culture, arrived in Dakar this morning for an official visit, and was met by the minister delegate in charge of relations with parliament, Thierno Ba. Lu Zhixian spoke to the press after his arrival.

[Begin Lu Zhixian recording] Upon the invitation of the Senegalese Ministry of Culture, the cultural delegation of the Chinese Government has come to visit Senegal. The aim of our visit is to discuss cultural exchange with the Ministry of Culture, [word indistinct] Senegal for 1986-87, according to the cultural agreement we signed. During the visit that the Senegalese minister of culture made to China, we signed the program for the implementation of the cultural agreement for 1983-84.

Relations between China and Senegal are good. With the development of political and economic relations between our two countries, cultural exchange continues to develop. I recall that in 1983 the cultural delegation of the Chinese Government, led by the adviser of the Ministry of Culture, Chen Xinren, paid an official visit to Senegal, and this year I have the pleasure of visiting Senegal. I am sure that this visit will enable us to enrich our knowledge about the achievements of the Senegalese people, especially in the cultural field. And I am also certain that this visit will strengthen cultural exchange between our two countries, and strengthen the friendly ties between our two peoples. I would like to take this opportunity to convey the freindly greetings from the Chinese people to the Senegalese people [end recording]

The Chinese vice minister of culture will be in Senegal until 17 February. This afternoon at 1600 he will hold a working session with the minister of communications, Djibo Ka, and tomorrow at 1000, the two men will chair the China-Senegal cultural commission.

Welcomed by Information Minister

AB131330 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Between China and Senegal, a cultural rapprochement is already taking shape. This is the outcome of the meeting held this afternoon between the minister of information, telecommunications and relations with parliament, and the Chinese cultural delegation. The meeting was held in the conference hall of the Ministry of Communications in the presence of experts of the two parties. While awaiting the signing of a cultural exchange protocol between the two parties, the meeting stressed the cultural aspect of an already good cooperation. Here is a report by Abdoulaye Dabho:

[Begin recording] [Dabho] The cultural aspect of cooperation is essential if the cooperation is to be multisectorial, especially if it is South-South in nature. Already, the head of state's visit to that country, the Friendship Stadium which illustrates Chinese ingenuity, and the medical mission are concrete proof of this. China and Senegal have the same preoccupations: belonging to the Third World, thus the common task of developing not only the economy but also the culture. Hence, two words characterize the Beijing-Dakar link: friendship and solidarity. Djibo Ka, minister of information and telecommunications, on behalf of his colleague in charge of culture, does not lose sight of the impact of culture in any cooperation.

Thus the minister of information and telecommunications has banked a lot of hope on this cultural exchange protocol agreement which will be signed tomorrow at 1000 o'clock at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the Chinese side, the head of the Chinese cultural delegation thanked the Senegalese authorities and delegation for the warm welcome given them. The delegation, which is here to discuss with the Senegalese authorities the 2-year cultural exchange protocol, also expressed the great interest which its country attaches to culture.

TOGO

France's Guy Penne Arrives, Meets With Eyadema

AB132130 Lome Domestic Service in French
1900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Guy Penne, French President Francois Mitterrand's special adviser on African affairs, arrived in Lome this afternoon. He was met on arrival at the Lome-Tokoin airport by Kpotivi Tevi Djidjobe Lacle, member of the Political Bureau and minister of interior.

Soon after his arrival, Guy Penne immediately went to Lome II where he held private discussions with General Gnassingbe Eyadema, founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic of Togo. Their discussions were followed by a luncheon party hosted by the head of state in honor of his French guest.

Some members of the Central Committee were also present at the luncheon.

ANGOLA

Foreign Minister Rejects Du Toit-Mandela Exchange

MB140600 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Minister of External Relations Afonso van Dunem announced in Luanda the day before yesterday that the Angolan Gvoernment does not see any humanitarian reasons in the exchange of South African Army Captain Petrus du Toit, who was captured in Malongo, for the nationalist leader, Nelson Mandela. The proposal of the South African Govvernment could only obtain the approval of the Angolan Government if it was in connection with the exchange of Capt Petrus du Toit for the Angolan nationals and a Cuban who have been taken away from Angola by the South African forces.

The minister of external realtions was speaking the day before yesterday to a journalist who accompanied Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs Francisco Fernandez-Ordonez in his visit to our country. Minister Afonso van Dunem also disclosed at the press conference that should any government, Western or otherwise, receive the leader of the armed gang in the service of South Africa, such an act will be regarded as hostile and of interference in the domestic affairs of Angola.

Envoy to U.S., UK on Exchange

MB141226 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1223 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] London, Feb 14, SAPA — Angola's ambassador to the United Nations and to Britain said in London today his government would consider a prisoner exchange with South Africa — but he ruled out a straight swap involving Capt Wynand du Toit for the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Mr Elisio de Figueiredo told a press conference: "Most of Africa, if not the entire world, would like to see Mr Mandela free and we associate with that spirit. But in no way is Du Toit to be part of a deal with Nelson Mandela. Du Toit was a commando who was arrested in the Province of Cabinda when he was trying to blow up our installations.

"South Africans have indeed taken out of Angola some Angolans and some Cubans, and my government would consider exchanging those Angolans and Cubans," he said.

The release of Capt du Toit was one of the conditions for Mr Mandela's freedom suggested by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, when he opened Parliament, but Mr de Figueiredo said the South African Government had not approached Angola either on that issue or about an exchange of prisoners.

He reported that Capt du Toit was in good health.

The ambassador called the press conference to complain about the recent visit to the United States by Dr Jonas Savimbi, the UNITA leader. Describing Dr Savimbi as a traitor who had betrayed his people and his country, he called on the British Government to use its influence to help the United States to "see reason." He claimed Dr Savimbi's visit had been "orchestrated" by South Africa.

Mr de Figueiredo accused South African forces of raiding Angola "and then trying to dupe the world into believing it is all the work of a bunch of traitors."

More on Spanish Foreign Minister's Visit

MB121808 Luanda ANGOP in English 1615 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Luanda, Feb 12 (ANGOP) — Angolan minister of external relations, Mr Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, affirmed today that Spain in relation to Angola carried out a policy of relations based on justice, equality, mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs of each state.

Speaking at the start of talks with a Spanish delegation led by the Spanish foreign minister, Mr Fernandez Ordonez, Mr Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, after describing as excellent the existing friendship relations and cooperation between Angola and Spain, said that the visit of his Spanish counterpart is taking place at a moment that the conjugated forces of imperialism and specially those of the most reactionary circles in the United States are embarked upon a larger policy of destabilisation in the region.

On his side, Mr Fernandez Ordonez guaranted that his country strongly condemns all external assistance to the counter-revolutionary bands aimed at disruping the Angolan Government.

He went on, stating that his visit is happening at a particularly difficult moment for the region, as imperialism continues to carry out destabilising actions in the region.

Prior to the beginning of talks, Mr Fernandez met with the state secretary for cooperation, Mr Carlos Fernandes, with whom he discussed possibility of reinforcing bilateral cooperation.

In Luanda, the Spanish foreign minister is scheduled to meet the planning minister, Mr Henriques Silva, and Oil and Energy Minister Mr Pedro de Castro Van Dunem (Loy), with whom he will study possibilities for the Spanish oil company Hispanoil to operate in Angola's offshore block-5.

Mr Fernandez Ordenez, who arrived in Luanda on Tuesday for a two-day official visit to Angola, is due to leave Luanda tomorrow for his country.

Party Officials Dismissed, Appointed

MB130752 Luanda Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Following the several departments of the Central Committee and in the context of the reorganization of the party central apparatus, the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee met on 7 February and the directors of the following departments relieved from duties:

Maria Terezinha Lopes of the Department of the Judicial Organs;

Jose Ambrosio Eduardo (Tambo), of the Department of State Organs:

Jose Carlos Gomes, of the Department of Support of Grass Root and Social Organizations;

Joaquim Quelhas Mesquita Mota, of the Department of Energy and Communications;

Humbeto do Carmo alves Machado, of the Department of Agriculture and Industry;

Norberto Fernandes Dos Santos, of the Department of Organization;

Gabriel [name indistinct] Pereira, of the Department of Administration and Finance; and

Antonio Joao Sbastiao da Silva (Lende), of the Department of External Relations.

Comrade Eufrazina Teresa da Costa Lopes e Gomes (Maiato), assistant dirctor of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee, was also relieved of her duties.

In accordance with Article 54 of the Central Committee regulations, the Political Bureau appointed the following officials as directors:

Comrade [name indistinct] De Sousa as director of the Department of Organization;

Comrade Maria Terezanha Lopes as director of the Department of State and Judicial Organs;

Comrade Joao Manuel de Oliveira Barrada as director of the production sector;

Comrade Luis [name indistinct] Paulo de Castro as director of the Department of External Relations;

Comrade Eufrazina da Costa Lopes de Gomes (Maiato) as director of the Secretariat of the party Central Committee.

Armed Forces Kill 17 'Counterrevolutionaries'

MB131957 Luanda ANGOP in French 1749 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Benguela, 13 Feb (ANGOP) — A total of 19 UNITA counterrevolutionaries in the pay of the racist South African regime were recently killed by the Angolan Armed Forces at Chongori and at the communal village of Canuine, Benguela Province, according to an authorized military source.

The operations also allowed the Angolan forces to seize a large quantity of war materiel of South African origin which was being used by the puppets, the source said.

LESOTHO

42 ANC Members Reportedly Flown to Zambia

MB141101 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1043 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Maseru, Feb 14, SAPA — A group of 42 members of the African National Congress were airlifted from Lesotho to Zambia last night, according to reliable sources.

The group left in a chartered Lesotho Airways plane following arrangements by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, SAPA correstpondent reports. This was the third group of South African political refugees to be sent away since last month's coup.

The South African Government demanded the removal of the ANC refugees from Lesotho during the three-week "border blockade" as one of the conditions for the lifting of the blockade, a situation which threatened to cripple Lesotho's economy.

SOUTH AFRICA

Scheduled Winnie Mandela News Conference Banned

MB131911 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1900 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] A news conference for Winnie Mandela has been prohibited under the Internal Security Act. The meeting was due to be held in Alexander township near Johannesburg tomorrow. It was to have been addressed by leaders, including Bishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak. They apprently plan to urge the government to stop harassing Mrs Mandela.

A spokesman for the organizers says a new venue will be announced at the last minute tomorrow, in an attempt to avoid further legal hurdles. Mrs Mandela has been in hiding near Johannesburg for nearly 2 months, since she was banned from Johannesburg and Soweto.

Prisons Service Declines Comment on Mandela Checkup

MB131421 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1412 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — The prisons service said in Pretoria today, when asked to confirm whether black leader Nelson Mandela had today undergone a medical check-up, that it was not the policy of the prisons service "to comment on the individual movement of prisoners." "In any case, the rumours are not true," he said.

A report today said Mandela had left his prison for an hour-long medical examination but was soon back in prison.

Alleged Film of Mandela at Center

MB140626 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2311 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Confusion surrounds television footage, allegedly of jailed leader Nelson Mandela, shown overseas today.

The 14 or 16 second clip, taken by a Columbia Broadcasting System [CBS] television crew from a closed circuit television screen at Cape Town's Medipark Centre, was allegedly verified by Mrs Winnie Mandela. But a spokesman for the South African Prisons Services, Colonel D.J. Immelman, told SAPA tonight:- "We deny that we let Mandela out of Pollsmoor Prison today."

He reiterated an earlier statement that it was "not prisons service policy to comment on the movement of individual prisoners."

A reporter for CBS, Mr Allen Pizzey, said tonight that a man in prison fatigues coming out of a doctors office was filmed and later shown to Mandela's wife, Winnie.

"She saw the picture. It was 14 or 16 seconds and she watched it several times and said: the tall very fit-looking figure. That's him, that's his walk," Mr Pizzey told SAPA. He added that the pictures are black and white and do not show great detail.

The group of journalists were watching a closed-circuit television security monitor at Medipark and saw a group of men emerging from a 10th floor room at 9.25am.

In a report from London, REUTERS News Agency said the footage taken at Medipark was shown on British commercial television today.

"The film showed four barely-recognisable men walking briskly along a corridor of a building which a television news programme described as Cape Town's medical centre," the report said.

Ambulance Leaves Pollsmoor Prison

MB141338 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1335 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 14, SAPA — About 60 people — mostly journalists and supporters of Nelson Mandela — had gathered outside Pollsmoor Prison in Tokai by noon today in anticipation of the possible release of the ANC leader.

In scorching heat reporters and television crews waited outside the visitors entrance from early morning, joined later by a number of people claiming to be Mandela supporters. About 10am a prison ambulance similar to that which took a prisoner to Medipark yesterday left Pollsmoor. It sped towards Cape Town with journalists in pursuit, but they returned soon afterwards, having lost it.

Mandela 'Not To Be Released'

MB140830 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0625 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 14, SAPA — Jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela is not about to be released, a spokesman for the prisons service in Pretoria said today.

Speculation of the imminent release of Mr Mandela gained fresh momentum today after a CBS news crew claimed it had filmed Mr Mandela at Cape Town's Medipark yesterday. A spokesman for the prisons service denied the claim, but Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of the 67-year-old leader, is reported to have identified her husband as the man filmed.

Asked to comment on the rumours, a spokesman for the office of the state president said there was nothing further to add to what President Botha had said in his speech at the opening of parliament.

A prisons service spokesman said this morning that rumours of Mandela's release were "not true — and that is all."

Defense Ministry Reiterates Policy Toward Neighbors

MB141012 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1008 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 14, SAPA — South Africa was not planning nor did it desire conflict with neighbouring states and if such states succeeded in getting rid of terrorists with outside help then it was a "praiseworthy attempt," the Ministry of Defence said today.

A spokesman said in a statement neighbouring states "merely have to prevent ANC terrorists from using their territories and no South African soldier will find it necessary to cross any border to clean up terrorist nests."

"The state president, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of defence are on record as saying South Africa is not planning nor wants aggression with any of its neighbours," the statement said.

"The minister of defence (General Magnus Malan) is also on record as saying that South Africa will not allow terrorists to use foreign territories to commit murder and other acts of terrorism against South Africa. These neighbouring states merely have to prevent ANC terrorists from using their territories and no South African soldier will find it necessary to cross any border to clean up terrorist nests."

In an apparent reference to the recent announcement by Botswana that British Army personnel are to assist with the training of the Botswana Defence Force, the spokesman added:

"If these neighbouring states succeed in ridding themselves of ANC terrorists with foreign assistance, it is surely a praiseworthy attempt."

Heunis: Reform Must Be Tested Against Realities

MB131228 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Reform in South Africa must be tested against realities and not against the status quo says the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Mr Chris Heunis. He was speaking at a symposium of the South African Institute of Civil Engineering. Ossie Gibson filed this report from Pretoria.

[Gibson] There could be no reform without a price, and while everyone spoke of reform no one was willing to pick up the price tag, said Mr Heunis. He encouraged the engineering profession, which was crucial in providing local, regional, and national services, to become more involved in ground-level planning of priorities before the contracts were drawn up. Mr Heunis said constitutional reform would have to go hand-in-hand with reform and other disciplines as it was a process encompassing many different government departments. In planning and coordinating this utilization and combating public enemy no. 1 which was unemployment, the government was prepared to help the engineering profession wherever possible. Success at the regional level would help to step up the process of reform at the top.

UDF Member Released From Detention, Restricted

MB121518 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1425 GMT 12 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 12, SAPA — United Democratic Front [UDF] member Miss Cheryl Carolus was today released after three weeks in detention and immediately restricted, a UDF National Executive Committee statement said today.

Miss Carolus was detained in terms of emergency regulations on January 22 after being arrested on her return from Europe.

In terms of the restrictions imposed, Miss Carolus cannot:

— Absent herself from the magisterial district of Wynberg in Cape Town.

— Participate in any of the activities of the UDF.

— Enter the premises of any educational institution.

— Be associated in any manner with any publication.

— Attend any meeting where the government's policies are attacked, criticised or discussed.

The UDF said the restriction order impsed on Miss Carolus was part of a systematic attack by the state on the "democratic movement" in general and the UDF in particular.

In the western Cape, nearly the entire UDF executive had been served with restriction orders, while in other parts of the country, the "attack on activists continues unabated," the UDF statement said.

"We condemn these draconian actions in the strongest terms and we warn the government that as long as it continues to suppress legitimate anti-apartheid activity, there will be no peace in South Africa," the statement added.

Slabbert Interviewed on Resignation From Parliament

MB121543 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans
1800 GMT 10 Feb 86

[Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert interviewed by Freek Robinson on the "Network" program, presented by Kolie van Koller — live]

[Text] [Van Koller] One of the subjects of every political discussion in the country since Friday has almost certainly been the sudden resignation of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert as leader of the opposition and member of parliament. He is in our Cape Town studio and Freek Robinson speaks to him. Freek?

[Robinson] Thank you very much, Kolie, and we welcome Dr van Zyl Slabbert, who is in our parliamentary studio in Cape Town. Let us just see if we have contact with him yet. Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, can you hear me?

[Slabbert] Yes, I can hear you, Mr Robinson.

[Robinson] Welcome. Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, when you resigned, you said certain things about Parliament as an institution. You said, inter alia, that you felt it is ineffective. Since then, other reports had appeared. What exactly did you say about the institution of Parliament?

[Slabbert] What I said was that Parliament is the only insittution in the country which can bring about effective constitutional change, for the simple reason that one needs a constitution in order to be able to bring about constitutional change. But I also pointed out that if the government misuses Parliament, or treats it with contempt, them there can be no effective constitutional change. It is against that backgroup that I began to reconsider my own role, and became disillusioned in my negotiations with the government. I do not speak out in judgment on the necessity of parliamentary tradition or the need for changes in constitutional law. I still believe that these are essential.

[Robinson] But, intrinsically, did you not try to imply something by that? Because you used the expression: if the government misuses it. Now, can you not qualify that? Are you saying this was actually done by the government, or what is it you are trying to say?

[Slabbert] No. I made it very clear in the no-confidence debate. I began my speech by saying there are three reasons I believe the government deserved a vote of no confidence. One was their blatant disregard of Parliament in 1985 during the difficult day we went through. And I gave examples. I said we had the emergency in some districts, and asked that Parliament be called into session. The stock exchange closed. The rand slipped to 35 cents. That is, 35 cents to the dollar. These are all examples I believed Parliament had to be involved in the process. And I mentioned other examples in the whole contitutional law development process, where Parliament was quite simply informed of 1-sided plans drawn up by the government, and in which we played no role. I also referred to the fact that there are more and more of what I called military executive actions — the actions against the neighboring states, where Parliament is just not informed, and we have no idea what is going on. Third, I referred to the fact that in the whole process of the so-called dismantling of apartheid, it is the government which makes the decision on how it has to be done, what the pace must be, and if they are prepared to involve other people in this process or not. And it is in this regard that I believed that I had to reconsider my role as leader of the opposition.

[Robinson] But the government is elected by the voters, and it is elected for a stipulated period, and it rules on the basis of laws made in Parliament. And there you, just like any member of the National Party or whatever party, have the right to speak, but the government still has to govern for a stipulated period and you can then question how it does so in the next session of Parliament. Why then do you feel so strongly that because they refused when you wanted them to recall Parliament, that should suddenly become the major reason for your decision that you personally could no longer continue with your position in Parliament?

[Slabbert] Yes, Well, I think, Mr Robinson, we have to differentiate here between protesting agaisnt the policy of the government — which of course has the right of any parliamentary opposition — and doing away with the policy of the government. And when one speaks of reform in South Africa, then we are in fact speaking about doing away with government policy of the past 3 and 1/2 decades. And in that process of doing away with it, in that process of moving away from apartheid, I fear it is not going to be good enough if they are not going to take the joint inputs and talents of a variety of groups and people in our society to do so effectively.

[Robinson] Including the opposition, where you had the opportunity.

[Slabbert] Exactly. That is precisely my argument, that in the process of getting rid of apartheid, I came to the conclusion that government is not actually intersted in real negotiation politics. I am, of course, prepared to be proved wrong.

[Robinson] Yes, but how can you say that? I think the president himself made the point at the opening of Parliament, where he specifically had the new forum in mind. That shows surely that there is a certain degree of progress on a specific body he wants to create special for negotiations with blacks, which he said was the first step towards power-sharing. And in addition, you were yourself coopted into the cabinet committee to play a role within that body in the negotiation process.

[Slabbert] You are mentioning interesting cases, which I fear do not really illustrate the point. You know, if you think back to last year, you will recall that the state president announced a nonstatutory forum, on which he also wanted to invite people to dicussions. And nothing came of that, for the simple reason that is another example of the government deciding on its own that here is a forum, and people must come forward to serve on it. That failed. Then the state president said he was going to form a cabinet committee, an enlarged cabinet committee, on which I and other opposition leader would be able to serve, in order to discuss black constitutional development. I waited for 3 months without getting a single invitation or knowing what was happening to that cabinet committee. Eventually, I wrote a letter asking when the committee was going to meet, and what was going on. Well, I was hauled over the coals by the minister of constitutional development because I had brought it out into the open. But eventually we did meet, and we met for only 30 minutes, and never again after that. After that, because of an earlier request, I went to give evidence in the cabinet committee and to see once again if there was any way in which we could find each other in this process of reform and negotiation. And I came away convinced that the government has its own determined point of view, from which it would not deviate, and others either have to agree on that or forget the whole thing. And you mention this year's statutory committee, which will be appointed by the state president or, rather, be formed by him. There again we have an illusion. The government decides they are going to set up a statutory committee. Why do they not first negotiate with people, and find out if there is a need for something like that, and what the functions of it will be. So, the point I...

[Robinson, interrupting] But, Doctor, one has to reach a point of negotiation, one way or another.

[Slabbert] Quite so. I agree, Mr Robinson. But I am trying to say that if one has to reach the point of negotiation, then one first has to go and find out what one can negotiate about. And one point which I tried to make — and I personally went to say this to the state president and to various cabinet ministers — as long as the government is going to cling to the idea of compulsory group membership, compulsory ethnicity, compulsory council membership for whatever reason — for residential purposes, for education purposes, and also for constitutional purposes — if they are going to cling to those, they will simply not get the negotiating process off the ground. Adn I am not the only one saying so. There are large numbers of leaders inside South Africa, from among the black community — Chief Buthelezi recently said again it is impossible for him to participate in the negotiating process if the government does not state very clearly that it is prepared to allow freedom of association and freedom of choice. [sentence as heard]

[Robinson] But it seems to me you expect a single public declaration from the government which, to a certain degree, would be a considerable moving away from its policy in the past. Even though there are already certain signs — because it seems to me you raised the issue of free association as one important principle in your own reason for resigning — and yet there was also the matter of the opening of free business districts, there have been certain ammendments to the Liquor Act which gave to hotelliers and restaurant owners the right to serve whom they wish. We have examples in the world of sport. These are all moves in the direction of free association, and you have now at a particular point come in and said these things do not exist.

[Slabbert] No, you see, I did not say that. What I said was: Does the government accept the principle of free association? Then the government, through Minister F.W. de Klerk says in the no confidence debate that yes, in certain instances they accept it, but in others, not. Then the question arises: Why freedom of association for the purposes of sex and marriage but not for the purpose of residential area? Where are the children of such a marriage going to live? You see you cannot have first or second-class apartheid. Either you are going to have freedom of association, where people can choose to what groups and associations they wish to belong, or you must keep the old apartheid, and this is, I think, what the CP says, that you either have apartheid or you don't have it at all. But what the government is now doing is that it is abandoning apartheid here and there and this creates expectations which the government is not prepared to fulfill and this accentuates the demands which arise in the black communities, and we...

[Robinson, interrupting] But this highlights the role of the opposition in Parliament, where you have undoubtedly played an important role in tackling the government through protest politics as you say. Could you not have continued in the role in the reform process?

[Slabbert] Well, Mr Robinson, it could have been possible, but I can tell you that I have tried for 12 years, I have given 12 years of my life to see how I could exploit that forum to promote negotiation politics as best I can to get rid of apartheid. At some state or the other one must ask oneself the question — and I am not judging my party or the role of the opposition, but as an individual you have done what you could — are there no other ways through which one could exploit the situation? That is precisely what I have decided to do. I have tried my best, and I must see if I cannot contribute in other areas to the dismantling of apartheid and the promotion of negotiation politics.

[Robinson] One of the statements made is that only the CP will benefit from your decision and you are a man who was a strong proponent of reform. This is one argument you must have had in mind?

[Slabbert] I do not know if one can use the argument to doom someone permanently to a position in opposition, where there is no progress from his side. It means I have become a decoration in Parliament. People like me, they think I am a friendly person who delivers good speeches and I must remain there to make sure that the government does not suffer too badly at the hands of the CP.

[Robinson] I don't think it is just a question of friendliness. You must have made an impact; otherwise you would have resigned earlier.

[Slabbert] Well, I must say it is noteworthy how relevant I have become from the moment I decided to resign.

[Robinson] Doctor would you say in retrospect that you have brought the reform process under suspicion to a certain degree? Would such a statement be justified?

[Slabbert] I suppose it would be justified in this respect, Mr Robinson, that if I compare the government's advertising campaign with speeches made by Minister Gerrit Viljoen and F.W. De Klerk, then I do not believe the advertisements were correct in creating expectations. If we tell the whole world that we are really moving away from apartheid or as the state president said, we have outgrown the old concept of apartheid — then we are not going to convince the world through advertising campaigns. We can only convince the world if the black people themselves or those who suffer under apartheid, tell us that they can see that apartheid has disappeared, and therefore I had to say in the no-confidence debate that we must go to the blacks and find out from them what the possibilities are for reforming or dismantling apartheid — how do they see it? Because eventually it is our coexistence which will determine whether we have a good society or not — because we have to live with the consequences of reform and this has nothing to do with concepts, it concerns legislation.

[Robinson] I would like to ask you about Parliament as an institution. After your resignation, various black leaders, internally, and also from organisations such as the ANC, have praised your decision and said you have really created the example of what others inside Parliament should do as well, and thereby some of these people have cast a reflection on Parliament from outside.

[Slabbert] Mr Robinson, let me put it to you this way. I did not do it to curry favor with any organization or political leader outside Parliament, but I think it would be shortsighted if we think that those people's views on Parliament are determined by my actions. I believe their views on the relevancy of Parliament are well-known and repeated many times. I think it is a special challenge to Parliament and to all of us to see to what extent we can prevent the polarization which is implicit in those views and bring about a situation in which we could talk to each other without fighting with each other.

[Robinson] Now if that is your view, Doctor, how are you going to achieve this now if, as you said earlier, you believe that Parliament is the institution where change must take place, and no constitutional, peaceful, evolutionary reform can take place without Parliament as an institution. If you believe that and you believe that polarization in our society must be eliminated, how are you to play that role as a concerned citizen of South Africa?

[Slabbert] I think implicit in the question is the thought that Parliament is a separate cocoon which will work out how society is to be governed. That is not so.

[Robinson] But here are representatives in Parliament...

[Slabbert, interrupting] But they come from outside Parliament and they reflect certain feelings, views, and attitudes outside Parliament. Equally there are those outside Parliament who do not have access to Parliament and if they begin to think that the only alternative is confrontation and violence, then Parliament can do what it likes, but we will have an intensified struggle, here. Therefore I believe, equally, that one should look outside Parliament for ways of promoting the possibilities of negotiation rather than confrontation and ...

[Robinson, interrupting] Is that what you are going to be busy with in future?

[Slabbert] Hopefully, yes. I will see what I can do but I cannot prescribe or tell you precisely what I have in mind. I have only been out of Parliament for 2 days. I would like to consider the possibilities.

[Robinson] In other words, you had no idea before resigning on how you are going to continue your role to realize your aims for a peaceful South Africa?

[Slabbert] Let me put it this way, Mr Robinson. There is a whole series of possibilities that one can investigate. I think what I am going to do for the foreseeable future is to learn more about my own society — on the labor front, the education field, community life — to see what possibilities exist in which I can play a role. In parliamentary life one is caught up in the ritual of Parliament and all that is involved and as a party politician one has to look at party interests. Therefore it follows that one is caught up in one facet of negotiation politics and in the political life of our country. I am going to exploit other possibilities.

[Robison] Another matter I would like to ask you about is the position of your own party. Various commentators have written this weekend that you have done your party a disservice and that this party is in a difficult position. They have even said that you were a great asset to the party, but the great question is the role of the opposition as a means for Parliament to achieve certain aims, and through your resignation you have dealt a blow to opposition politics in Parliament.

[Slabbert] I regret it if that is the case. I think, in all sincerity, if a party is solely dependent on an individual then its right to exist is questionable. I do not believe that is the case with the PFP. I think there are enough capable people in the PFP who can play an important role in opposition politics. I believe the policies and principles of the party are relevant to parliamentary politics. So I cannot see why an effort should not be made to move forward. I will concede....

[Robinson, interrupting] You have made statements which are a reflection on your own party and also on your position as such. You said the party is engaged in futile dialogue. Is that not really a reflection too on your position itself and your party's role, that you do not believe that it has any value?

[Slabbert] No. That was a criticism leveled at government. I think the PFP has succeeded very well in criticising certain points in the no-confidence debate. They were successful in pointing out shortcomings in government's viewpoints and I believe they should continue to do that.

[Robinson] Very successful, very successful, is a reasonably strong...

[Slabbert, interrupting] Yes, but as you say these are statements I made. I tried to say that there are people in government who were not prepared to participate in the debate for whatever reason, and that was a futile thing to do, you know. What does it help if we shout at each other? And I think in many cases it was a purposeful attempt by government to avoid the questions. I also tried to indicate this in my reply, specifically in my attitude to Defense Minister Magnus Malan, who questioned my loyalty but did not answer any of my questions. That is futile. It is absurd to do that. It is a waste of the taxpayer's money.

[Robinson] What assurance have you that your own party members who are still in Parliament are going to continue the task which you regard as important, when you still feel so negative about the things which you have experienced?

[Slabbert] I think I tried to distinguish between my own position as political leader and the way I experienced it and my frustrations. I did not project my frustrations on the party. I said I have tried to play a role to the best of my ability. In the final analysis it is not a life sentence in South Africa if you belong to Parliament or to a political party. You try to make a contribution. You try to consider carefully whether you are progressing in terms of your position, then you must act in all sincerity and decide what you are going to do thereafter. That is what I did finally. But suddenly it has become a sort of high treason because I did these things, because I decided I want to see if I cannot make a contribution elsewhere than in Parliament.

[Robinson] Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, thank you for taking part tonight in our program.

[Slabbert] Thank you very much, Mr Robinson.

Eglin Hopes Slabbert Incident Makes Government Aware

MB131331 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1319 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] House of Assembly, February 13, SAPA — The action leader of the opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, said today he would not mind the damage that Dr van Zyl Slabbert's resignation had done to the PFP [Progressive Federal Party] if it drove home to the government the "desperate seriousness" of the situation that was developing in South Africa.

Speaking in the second reading debate on the part appropriation bill, Mr Eglin said he wished to place on record the appreciation of his fellow PFP MP's to Dr Slabbert for the contribution he made to debates in the house and to the wider political debate in South Africa during the time he was an MP and leader of the opposition.

"We recall in particular his efforts to make debates in this house relevant to the realities of a South Africa of 30 million people.

"The state president will know political leadership is both a public and at the same time a uniquely personal experience — I know this. I have been too close to Dr Slabbert over many months in his anguish over the role he was playing as the leader of the opposition to join in any public recrimination over the step he took last Friday.

"It may well be that his action had hurt many of his friends. It may well be that it will do temporary damage to the party he served. But let me say that I for one would not mind enduring the hurt done to me or my party, and the damage, if his dramatic move could drive home to this stubborn and shortsighted government the desperate seriousness of the situation that is developing in South Africa."

Mr Eglin also said the PFP would continue its fight "here in Parliament where the apartheid laws have to be scrapped and where one day we will enact a new non-racial constitution."

"We will take our message to the millions of South Africans outside of this Parliament.

"It is my conviction that for any party in this house to be able to play a meaningful and constructive role in the politics of tomorrow, it must not only be relevant to the white voter but it must also be relevant in the wider and bigger non-racial political arena where so much of the politics of tomorrow is going to take place."

Pik Botha: No Decision Made on Namibia Independence

MB131356 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1335 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 13, SAPA — The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today he was not aware of any decision taken by South Africa on the date for implementation of UN Resolution 435 on independence for SWA/Namibia.

His department issued a short statement in Cape Town after reports here that Mr Botha and senior U.S. officials had discussed the issue during talks in Geneva yesterday.

The reports said Mr Botha, the South African ambassador to the U.S., Mr Herbert Beukes, and U.S. senior foreign affairs official had met Dr Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state from African affairs, and other American officials. They were reported to have discussed South Africa's willingness to set a date for implementation of Resolution 435 to help U.S. efforts toward a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola.

In his statement today, however, Mr Botha said only that he was "not aware of any such decision by the South African Government on this issue.

Natal, KwaZulu To Meet Cabinet on Joint Legislature

MB131537 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The government is (?planning) to meet with Natal-KwaZulu leaders to discuss a planned joint legislative body for the whole area. KwaZulu's Chief Minister Buthelezi, Cabinet Minister Oscar Dlomo, Natal's administrator Radcliffe Cadman, and senior Natal Executive Council member [name indistinct] will now be going to Cape Town to see the Cabinet. Carmel Rickard has more details.

[Rickard] The four key figures in the KwaZulu-Natal talks are to see Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis on 11 March. On their agenda is a request to the minister to enact legislation which will allow them to set up a single legislative authority for KwaZulu-Natal. They want this joint body to allow for participation from all groups. At a news conference after their latest round of talks in Durban this afternoon, the cochairmen of the planning committee also announced more details of an indaba [discussion] which will be set in motion immediately after the Heunis talks. This meeting will discuss the new constitutional dispensation for the region, and invitations will be given to all interested groups, including the ANC, the UDF [United Democratic Front], and trade unions as well as management and political groups.

SOWETAN Journalists Refused Press ID Cards

MB130930 Joahnnesburg SAPA in English
0928 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Three senior journalists on the *SOWETAN* have been refused press identity cards by the South African police, the newspaper reported today.

The three are Mr Thami Mzwai, the news editor; Mr Joe Thloloe, the features editor; and Mr Sam Mabe, the political reporter. All three are also executive members of the Media Workers Association of South Africa (MWASA).

Without the accredited police press cards, it means that the three may not enter and stay for purposes of their professional work in any area under police control from which the general public is excluded.

Yesteday, the *SOWETAN* editor, Mr Joe Letakgomo, said he was going to take the matter up with the relevant authorities because he viewed the police refusal in "the most serious light."

"If I cannot get accreditation for my senior staffers it will obviously impede our ability to keep our readers informed about what goes on in the townships," he said.

Until 1981 there was a uniform police press card system for all journalists, which allowed them access to areas under police control and to interview the commissioner of police or any senior commissioned officer. But in August 1981, an agreement was reached between the Newspaper Press Union (NPU) and the police whereby the NPU was allowed to issue cards annually to reporters whose integrity could be vouched personally by their editor. The police would, however, issue accredited press cards, which would be the only ones that would allow holders access to areas under police control.

Two Killed in Renewed Tribal Fight Near Durban

MB140715 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0704 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 14, SAPA — Two people were killed in the Umbumbulu area south of Durban when renewed tribal fighting between the Embo and Makanya factions erupted last night.

Police said that a small group of about 20 Embo men attacked members of the Makanya clan with knobkerries, sticks and assegais at the Tholeni reserve at Umbumbulu.

When police arrived they found the bodies of two men from the Makanya clan, both stabbed to death.

Police will be in Umbumbulu in full force over the weekend to prevent further fighting between the two groups.

Meanwhile, they have made 12 arrests in connection with the murder of three policemen who were killed there, together with seven other people, during faction fighting in the area. They have also seized four firearms and large amounts of ammunition.

Police said the situation was quiet today and members of the South African police reaction unit were keeping a close watch on the situation.

Efforts to arrange peace talks between the two chiefs have been unsuccessful because the chief of the Embo clan is in hiding.

'Scores' of People Arrested in Witbank Raid

MB131419 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1411 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Scores of people were arrested on various charges in a pre-dawn raid conducted by police and an SADF unit on the four Witbank townships today. This was confirmed by the Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria. A police spokesman said the police and the SADF conducted a "crime prevention/detection operation" after arsonists had yesterday stoned and set six vehicles on fire.

Six trucks bearing company logos were set alight in the townships of Lynville and Ackerville, and a bus was stoned outside the coloured township of Schoongesicht.

According to an eye-witness, police and the SADF unit conducted a house-to-house search in the townships of Kwaguqha, Lynville, and Ackerville, where a number of people, mostly youths, were arrested.

In other incidents of unrest, a bus was stoned in White River and another in Barberton, where a black man was injured.

Police Shoot at Youths in Church Center Raid

MB131955 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1947 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Armed police in helicopters raided a West Rand ecumenical centre early this morning, arresting at least 55 children from unrest-torn areas who had been sent there for sanctuary. Three of the children who escaped into the surrounding bushes sustained bullet wounds from R1 rifles, and several of those arrested have allegedly also been wounded.

The children, aged between 15 and 22, had only been at Wilgespruit Ecumenical Centre for about five days, the centres director, the Rev Dale White, told SAPA tonight. Most of them aged about 15 to 16, were sent there by the Bishop Suffragan of Johannesburg East, Bishop Simeon Nkoane, from the riot-torn areas of Leandra, Daveyton and Kwathema.

Rev White told what happened after the helicopters flew over the centre at about 7am today.

"Three helicopters flew over the centre. Two of them landed and some armed policemen got out. As I was about to leave my home to investigate, I was met by a Major Scheepers, who handed me a search warrant empowering the police to search for people, firearms and documentation," Rev White said.

He was told to accompany two policemen — Captains Kleynhans and Lubber — who would search his office.

"I was about to do this when I heard some shots — about 15 to 20. I left the captains as I wanted to see what was going on. I thought it's impossible that they could be shooting at children. I was very shocked.

"They didn't let me go out, but from my office I could see a policeman with his rifle in the air. It seemed he had fired some of the shots. I saw some children walking outside with their hands up. The captins insisted I stay with them while they search my office. While I was sitting in my office I heard further shots and the crying of children. You can imagine how I felt, hearing these children who were in my care and the savage behaviour on the part of the police."

He said the police took nothing from the office. After making some notes from his address book, the policeman left.

"I then went down to the centre, where I found that male police had body-searched two of the woman cooks, making them strip right down. A Captian Kruger told me I should lay a charge about this.

"After the police left, some children came out of the bushes — it's a very bushy area — three of them wounded."

One had a bullet in the buttocks, another had his knee grazed and the third his foot grazed by a bullet, the director said. Four others also came out of hiding.

Rev White voiced concern over the welfare of the children: "We were just getting to know them and their problems, which to take to court and so on. We were just getting a social worker," he said. "While the people conducting the searches of the offices were very polite, what was happening to the children was very different."

He said the children had all been examined very recently by a medical doctor, who found four had old bullet wounds, two had broken limbs, one was concussed and four were highly disturbed. Some of the arrested were children of workers at the centre.

"I've been trying to trace the children but the only name they gave me to contact was a Major Halgryn, who hasn't been at home. I heard on a news bulletin that 13 of the children were taken to Lesley, near Leandra, and the others are in Krugersdorp," Rev White said. About 14 of them were from the trouble-torn Leandra township, and were sent to the centre as refugees from conservative vigilantes in the township.

Four of the children were daughters of Chief Ampie Mayisa, who was hacked to death by vigilantes in Leandra the day before he was to meet Dr Chester Crocker, U.S. envoy for African affairs, last month.

Major T. Halgryn tonight denied "absolutely" Rev White's allegations that three children had been wounded by bullets and that woman cooks had been searched by policemen.

Anglican Bishop Describes Raid

MB131500 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1457 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 13, SAPA — Police fired shots and wounded a number of youths at Wilgespruit ecumenical centre on West Rand today after they raided the centre in helicopters and cars, the Anglican Bishop Suffragen of Johannesburg said.

Bishop Simeon Nkoane said he had visited the centre following today's police raid and was told by the director of Wilgespruit, the Rev Dale White, that between 35 and 45 young people — apparently refugees from vigilante violence in Leandra — had been arrested. Some of them had bullet wounds.

"The police were said to have arrived at the centre in three helicopters and a large number of vehicles. There were apparently about 40 to 50 of them. They presented a search warrant to Mr White ... and proceeded to go around the place.

"Some youngsters in panic tried to run away. They ran outside. The police followed them, shooting. I believe about six children were wounded. Most are said to have been arrested, about 35 and 45 of them, some were wounded."

The bishop said most of the youths were between 14 and 18 years of age. Most were from Leandra and were seeking shelter after a clash between conservative vigilantes and community activists.

He said it was possible that four girls arrested were daughters of Chief Ampie Mayisa, who was hacked to death by vigilantes in Leandra last month.

The youths had been at the centre for about three weeks, the bishop said.

Police Say Several Detained

MB131514 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] The South African Police say several people are being detained after a police swoop on the Wilgespruit Ecumenical Center west of Johannesburg. A police spokesman said the people were held in connection with recent acts of violence in black residential areas of the Rand and in the eastern Transvaal. He said warrants had been issued earlier for the arrest of some of those held in today's swoop.

Thousands Boycott School in Pretoria Townships

MB130903 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0855 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Thousands of pupils in Pretoria's black townships stayed home today following a call for a two-day school boycott to commemorate the death of an Atteridgeville pupil and the recent shooting of three pupils.

The stay-away has been called to mark the death of Emma Sathekge, who died after she was run over by a police vehicle in the township in 1984. Sathekge was a pupil at the D.H. Peta High School in Atteridgeville.

The stayaway was also called to protest against the recent shooting of three pupils in Atteridgeville and Mamelodi and the detention of several student leaders.

There was a partial stay-away in Mamelodi early today while all schools in Atteridgeville were deserted. Police and defence force members in casspirs and other in private cars patrolled the townships streets.

The newly-formed Transvaal Students Congress has organised services throughout the country to commemorate the death of Emma Sathekge. The stay-away is expected to end on Monday.

Meanwhile at Soshanguve — another black township near here — it was quiet but tense today after several acts of violence last night.

The police divisional commandant for Pretoria North, Lieutenant-Colonel Tom Bezuidenhout, confirmed that three policemen's houses were damaged by stones and later set alight.

Two Bophuthatswana Transport Holdings (BTH) buses had several of their windows smashed when they were stoned by youngsters.

Residents cautiously left for work early today amid fears of being stopped after rumours that memorial services would be held for Emma Sathekge today and that people should stay away from school and work.

Police Disperse Women Marchers With Teargas

MB140848 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0846 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 14, SAPA — Police today fired teargas to disperse a group of women about to march to the Atteridgeville police station near Pretoria.

The women, who had gathered at Ramohoebo Square, were preparing to march to the police station to protest against the shootings of two local pupils, George Moima, 15, and Daniel Moima, 13, allegedly by police at the weakend.

No children reported for school in the township today, while taxis and buses were not visible this morning and trains ran empty.

Large numbers of residents stood on street corners, watching as some women clad in black moved past to gather for the march. A single helicopter hovered above.

Police fired several teargas canisters into the group of women, forcing them to scatter. No casualties were immediately reported and the situation remained tense.

'Top-Level' Inquiry Into Police Shooting of Youth

MB131655 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1003 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Durban, Feb 13, SAPA — A top-level investigation under the personal supervision of the divisional criminal investigation officer for Port Natal, Brigadier John van der Westhuizen, is underway following the death of a Kwandengezi schoolboy and the shooting of one of his friends.

Brigadier van der Westhuizen said today a murder and an attempted murder docket had been opened and investigations were continuing.

The investigation follows the death of Mbongeni Ephraim Mgedezi, 17, who is alleged to have been shot dead by a policeman, and the shooting of his friend Delani Sithole, 18, who was wounded in the thigh. Delani said yesterday the shooting took place on Sunday afternoon.

AZASM Claims Responsibility for Ga-Rankuwa Unrest

MB130843 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0841 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — The Azanian Students Movement [AZASM] has claimed responsibility for the recent unrest in Ga-Rankuwa north-east of Pretoria.

In a pamphlet distributed in the area, the movement denied claims by the authorities that foreigners were behind the unrest.

It also condemned what it called "cold blooded killing of people for no apparent reason by Bophuthatswana police."

Police Report 13 Feb Unrest Incidents

MB131808 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1755 GMT 13 Feb 86

[Text] Pretoria, Feb 13, SAPA — Following is the 7pm unrest report issued by the SAP Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"The following incidents on unrest were reported today:

"At Soshanguve, near Pretoria, a private home and a private vehicle were extensively damaged when they were petrol-bombed. Another private home was slightly damaged in a similar incident.

"At Kabokweni, near White River, a police vehicle was stoned. Two black males were arrested in connection with this incident.

"In Soweto (Witwatersrand), a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists and a number of buses were damaged by stonethrowers. One of the bus drivers was injured.

"In the same area, a post office vehicle was set on fire and extensively damaged.

"At Rosedale coloured residential area in the eastern province, a delivery vehicle was petrol-bombed and extensively damaged.

"In the black residential area near Witbank, a tractor and a truck were destroyed by arsonists.

"At Dondonald black residential area near Lothair, in the eastern Transvaal, a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists.

"At Rocklands near Bloemfontein, an illegal gathering was dispersed by the police, who used quirts.

"A woman and a man were arrested. At Mohlakeng near Randfontein, a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists."

Report ends.

Overnight Incidents Reported

MB140615 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0610 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:

At Katlehong near Germiston 2 buses, 3 delivery vehicles and 3 private vehicles were damaged when they were stoned and petrol bombed during separate incidents. Three male youths were arrested.

At Soweto on the Witwatersrand a bus was destroyed by arsonists.

At Munsieville near Krugersdorp a male youth was slightly injured when a policeman's home was petrol bombed.

Commentary Warns Botswana To Take Action on Terror

MB140548 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Station commentary: "Terrorism and Botswana"]

[Text] To say that the level of a government's commitment to a course is determined not merely by ministerial statements but, much more important, by the action it takes, is a statement of the obvious. Nevertheless it is one which the Government of Botswana might well consider more seriously, in the wake of yet another act of terrorism by ANC members launched from its territory.

On this occasion a landmine explosion on the northern Transvaal border was followed by a chase in which a soldier died and one of the two terrorists was shot dead while fleeing back to the Botswana border.

After repeated incidents of this nature the Botswana Government must be aware that there is by now a strong swell of scepticism in South Africa about its protestations of innocence. According to spokesmen for that government it neither harbours ANC terrorists nor permits them freedom of movement through the country.

In the past few weeks it has been engaged in serious talks with South Africa about a variety of matters including security, and has continued to give the assurance that it does not accommodate terrorists. Yet the facts paint a diferent picture. In the latest incident the tracks of the last fleeing terrorist led directly to the Botswana border. Even more conclusive, with the river flowing strongly he had spent some time walking up and down along the bank, obviously looking for a place to cross safely.

The behaviour of the terrorists also followed precisely the pattern established in eight other landmine attacks in the last two months, when nine civilians were killed. Commentators have observed that the ANC is apparently trying to open a new front for cross-border terrorism, the indications being that Botswana is, if not the base from which they operate, at least a safe-passage conduit.

The South African Government has appealed repeatedly to neighbouring states to abide by the rules of conduct observed between civilised countries.

It is in that spirit that President P.W. Botha has mooted the idea of a permanent joint mechanism to deal with security, especially in respect of threats to peace and progress in the subcontinent. But he also felt constrained, in his opening address to Parliament, to deliver a warning: "If this offer by the Republic of South Africa should be ignored or rejected (he said) we shall have no choice but to take effective steps in self-defence to protect our country and people."

Protestations of innocence are well and good, but the real measure of a government's intention is to be found in what it translates into action.

Press Examines Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report] **Treurnicht on Black President**
Johannebsurg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 11 February reports on page 4 that Dr Andries Treurnicht, leader of the Conservative Party (CP), has said President Botha had to step in to prevent what he called a palace revolution in the National Party (NP). Dr Treurnicht feels Minister Pik Botha had given the correct and logical implications of NP policy when he spoke about a black president. "If power sharing is accepted, a black government and a black president are a likelihood eventually, Dr Treurnicht said last night in an interview." He says the CP has had a stormy reaction to President Botha's opening speech to Parliament and the ensuing advertisement campaign. It is reported that a CP member of Parliament received a letter from a rural supporter in which the writer said "we are prepared to take up arms" if the government allows blacks into the parliamentary system.

DIE VADERLAND on Black President

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says for a long time there has been a silent debate in the political arena on the concepts of prescription as opposed to choice and compulsory group formation as opposed to free association. Events in Parliament last Friday brought all these to a head. Whatever one's view, the final question is whether every population group can rise to the highest political level. If one says yes, then it is logical that we can have a black president. "If this is not stated, it will make the political debate in the country impossible. Blacks who carry weight could never participate in a process whose limits have been prescribed beforehand." Among whites, too, there is uncertainty after Friday's events in the House of Assembly, and uncertainty chases away more supporters than firm but unpopular leadership. "It is vital that the National Party decides quickly which way it wants to go — prescription or choice. If the first, it must realize this would not agree with the climate created by the opening speech to Parliament by the state president, and the advertising campaign which followed."

Storm Over Pik Botha Reprimand

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 10 February reports on its front page that the storm over President Botha's reprimand of Foreign Minister Pik Botha has not yet died down. The paper says in discussions with ministers, deputy ministers, and members of Parliament last week it appeared that the majority in the National Party caucus had the same understanding of the matter as Minister Botha, namely, that a black president was a logical outcome. It adds that while up to 50 NP members of Parliament are unhappy at the pace of reform and particularly the government's inability to get a meaningful dialogue with black leaders going, there is no thought of crossing over to the Progressive Federal Party (PFP).

Tension in National Party

In its editorial on page 6, the paper says last Friday's events in Parliament will have many consequences. It is not, the paper says, simply a matter of the leader of the official opposition resigning in frustration or a senior minister being reprimanded or that sides have clearly been taken within the National Party. There is tension in the NP, and the state president has come out in support of Minister F.W. de Klerk's view of party policy. "Indeed, the whole credibility of the opening speech and the ensuing advertising campaign is now under a cloud. To say that a large number of Nationalists who agree with Pik Botha's correct view of the logical outcome of power sharing are angry, is to underestimate the matter because in the caucus of the NP it has been accepted that he was correct. After Friday there is a fluidity in our politics. How matters are dealt with this week and what happens in the NP caucus can have an effect on the possibility of a party political rearrangement."

Viljoen Denies Takeover Plans

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 12 February reports on page 11 that former SADF chief Constand Viljoen has denied allegations by the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (Afrikaner Resistance Movement, AWB) that he had been involved in the plans by that movement to take over the government of the country so that the "Afrikaner republics" could be handed back to the Afrikaner nation. The paper quotes General Viljoen as saying: " 'I have no political aspirations. I am in no way going to involve myself in politics, particularly not with extremist groups like the AWB. Pepole who claim otherwise are fishing on dry land.' "

BEELD on Boraine

In an editorial on page 10, the paper says De Alex Boraine of the official opposition seems to be echoing Dr van Zyl Slabbert's disaffection with Parliament, and refers to Dr Boraine's statements on "a greater open window" to extraparliamentary groups and interests. The paper asks: "What do we see through that 'greater open window' and 'in the veld.' " Among other things, groups which attend funerals under the revolutionary flag of communism. Open propagation of the ANC which is involved withh terrorist attacks. Groups involved in bloody fights in black areas. Marches, demonstrations, etc.' " "The question at the core is: Are ordinary Progressives going to allow this, or are they going to let Dr Boraine understand what they feel about this dangerous game? They ought to have little enough confidence in him to let him seek a political home elsewhere."

Release of Mandela

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 12 February reports on pages 1 and 2 that Nelson Mandela would not "be released from prison today or in the immediate future, government sources said yesterday." "South African intelligence sources said yesterday however that there are 'definitely negotiations going on concerning the release of Mandela.' " However, they doubted that they were linked to the East-West exchanges. " 'From the South African point of view, whatever capital is to be made out of releasing Mandela the government will want for itself. It would not make sense for them to participate in swaps for which the Americans or other powers will want to claim the credit.' said a source." The source continued: " 'Because Mr Botha appears to have committed himself to the principle of releasing Mandela on humanitarian grounds, it is being expected that he will be released. But the timing and the conditions will be those dictated by South Africa's Government, and when they consider that the right price has been paid.' "

PFP on P.W. Botha Statement

On page 3, the paper reports a statement by Colin Eglin, interim Progressive Federal Party leader, in response to Chief Buthelezi's criticism of P.W. Botha's criticism of Pik Botha's remarks on a black president. Eglin said the president "must tell the country whether he is committed to maintaining apartheid or to dismantling it." He noted that the president angered blacks with his repudiation of the suggestion that there might be a black president. However, this was not surprising. " 'But it has drawn attention to the fact that once again Mr Botha has put Nationalist unity ahead of the interests of the country. Mr Botha was trying to keep together within the NP those who believed in apartheid and those who did not.' "

PFP Leadership Struggle

The paper reports on the same page that Eglin appeared to have the PFP leadership within his grasp. "A headcount of the 27 MP's shows that Mr Eglin has a strong lead within the caucus. But the caucus has no formal standing in the Federal Council, which will elect the acting leader pending a full congress." Dr Alex Boraine had angered some colleagues by refusing to put his future in Parliament beyond doubt. " 'We have had one Van Zyl Slabbert and we cannot afford another,' remarked one MP."

CITIZEN On Pik Botha

In an editorial entitled "Unfortunate" on page 6, the paper says that Pik Botha's remarks on the possibility of a black president were "most unfortunate." Although this may have been encouraging to foreign governments and media, "in purely local terms they could only embarrass the state president, since he has his own constituency and that constituency would certainly not whoop with joy at the possibility of a black president." The paper does not believe that the foreign minister will lose credibility but is concerned about the credibility of the president, which has been brought into question by Chief Buthelezi's statement. Although it is up to Pik Botha to decide about his position in the government, clearly "he has done his party and government a disservice, besides embarrassing the state president."

Mandela Rejects Release

Johannesburg the *SOWETAN* in English on 12 February carries a front page article on the possible release of Nelson Mandela which cites a source "close" to the paper as saying "Mandela has rejected freedom, refusing to leave his colleagues on Robben Island."

Editor on COSATU Call

In a reaction to the call by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) for its members to boycott the *SOWETAN* on page 3, the paper's editor, Joe Latakgomo, said " 'The *SOWETAN* is not, repeat not, essentially anti any black organisation. We have stressed the need for a positive, united effort against the forces of apartheid in all forms. We will continue to do so, and wish organisations like COSATU support us in our struggle towards our common goal — freedom for all.' "

Union Members Fired for Strike

"About 340 members of the United African Motor and Allied Workers Union employed at a German multinational company, August Laepple Pty Ltd in Pretoria, have been dismissed after going on strike," another report on the same page says. The workers, who participated in an illegal strike on Monday, were given an ultimatum to return to work and those who did not do so were dismissed.

NUM Congress

In the "Workers' Diary" on page 8, Joshua Raboroko writes that this weekend's fourth annual congress of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) is probably the union's most important congress since its formation. The congress is taking place against the background of "continued labour unrest in the mines and political turbulence in the country," and "is expected to make important policy decisions about the union's relationship with employers and the Government."

New Debt Repayment Plan

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English for 12 February reports on the front page that new proposals for rescheduling South Africa's foreign debt call for an initial capital repayment in the first quarter of the year. One London banker is quoted as saying that the repayments are likely to involve " 'only a relatively small down-payment on the principal debts' " to safeguard creditor-bank interests. The report says South Africa will probably accept the principle of phased repayment starting in the first quarter of this year and negotiate on the specific proportions of the debt to be repaid at various stages, though some sources said South Africa might reject the plan outright.

Editorial on PFP

BUSINESS DAY says in a page 6 editorial that the "savage attack" by the Progressive Federal Party (PFP) on business for not supporting it more vigorously "smacked of justification for a shoddy departure that hardly bears raking over." The irony is that the PFP, "never proud that it was financed at all by business," was able to get as much business support as it did. Perhaps the PFP should not aim to be a mass party of the middle, the editorial says. Its future may lie as a "party supporting free enterprise and individual liberties and making no bones about it." The PFP will never be the ruling party, but it could have more credibility and do a "valuable job" in Parliament keeping the National Party to its promises and mitigating their "worst efforts at economic despoilation."

Editorial on Foreign Debt

A third *BUSINESS DAY* editorial says there is reason to believe that the new foreign debt rescheduling proposals have "more than a fighting chance" of acceptance, "if only because the attitudes of key U.S. banks are now less hostile." The passing of time has improved the atmosphere for negotiation, though the South African negotiators will have to "show a stern face," the editorial warns, otherwise the "mischiefmakers" will toughen things up." "Pray that P.W. doesn't upset another applecart in Parliament before next Thursday, which he is quite capable of doing."

Editorial on Black President

A *STAR* editorial on page 12 says that even from the government's "blinkered" viewpoint, placating the white right wing does not pay. President Botha did that last week when he repudiated the idea of a black state president, thus alienating the one man who was crucial to the plan for a national statutory council — Chief Buthelezi. The idea of a black president has been mentioned by more than one top Nationalist — going back to Prime Minister John Vosster — but if that is no longer party policy, the editorial says, "what on earth is?" Chief Buthelezi is entitled to a clear statement of where Mr Botha is leading the country. Reform will gain credibility only once the "government looks to the future of the majority, not the fearful prejudices of the few," the editorial concludes.

STAR on Mandela Release

The justice minister's remarks on the impossiblity of releasing Nelson Mandela gives "new cause for dismay," another editorial says. His release is not "an issue for international chess. The Government is surely well aware that internal requirements — not world opinion — demand the release of Mr Mandela." The state president risks painting himself into a corner where he cannot release Mandela without losing face. "And everyone knows that the government would sacrifice the country's interests rather than lose face," the editorial concludes.

Economic Outlook

An article on page 16 quotes the February "Economic Spotlight," magazine of the South African bank Volkskas, that 1986 will be a year of "hope and headaches." The magazine says exports should show "marginal improvement," the price of gold has risen and there are more promising agricultural conditions. The business cycle is following an upward course and economic policy is aimed at supporting economic growth. " 'Lower interest rates, reduced growth in the money supply, the sizeable surplus on the current account of the balance of payments, the stronger rand and prospects of improved company profits in several sectors'" offer cause for optimism. However, the magazine says, not everything is rosy. The nonavailability of foreign loans is not taken seriously. As a rule domestic savings are insufficient to finance the level of investment for supporting a satisfactory growth rate. The negotiations on the foreign debt are extremely important and these will influence "economic growth and the general welfare of the population in the years ahead." And "finding a solution to the unemployment problem continues to present one of the greatest challenges," while high and rising inflation is "more dangerous and dire than ever," the Volkaskas magazine says.

SATS Tariff Increase

Gerald Reilly reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 13 February that the Progressive Federal Party's (PFP) spokesman for transport, John Malcomess, has predicted "shock tariff increases" for the South African Transport Services (SATS). Malcomess also said that the SATS "had slashed staff by 40,000 over the past two years, and was committed to a further cut of 20,000 in the months ahead." "The recession, a steep fall in freight and passenger traffic and reduced tourism" are among the reasons for the SATS' "huge deficit," which may reach 400 million rands, according to the transport minister. The chairman of the Federal Council of SATS Trade Unions said he feared "further tariff hikes appeared unavoidable."

Warning on Centenary

"The Community Support Committee (COSCO) has called on the entire private sector to dissociate itself from Johannesburg centenary celebrations," Sipho Ngcobo reports on page 4. COSCO leader Khehla Mthembu said companies could " 'incur the wrath of the black people' " if they participated.

Parents Favor Opening School

"Almost 80 percent of parents who replied to a questionnaire were in favour of opening SA college junior and high schools in Cape Town to all races," another report on the same page notes. Of the 600 parents polled, 500 favored opening the schools, 90 opposed it, and the rest were undecided.

Mandela Release Urged

In an editorial on page 6, the paper says that recent events have had the effect of substantially diminishing "the impetus" of the "laudable intentions" the president announced in his speech at the opening of Parliament. One way to restore the impetus is to release Nelson Mandela "and having released him, talk to him." The government will have to talk to the ANC sooner or later and "why not sooner, while a modicum of goodwill remains?"

Du Plessis Statement Disputed

Another editorial on the same page says that although "it's almost impossible to believe," Finance Minister Barend du Plessis " 'dismissed suggestions linking the run on the currency with President P.W. Botha's Rubicon speech.' " However, economic fundamentals could not have caused a 22 percent decline in the value of the rand in 12 days, the paper says.

Owen on Slabbert Successor

Commenting on "the abdication" of former PFP leader Frederik van Zyl Slabbert in another column on the same page, Ken Owen says the PFP "has been grievously wounded by Slabbert; it must not suffer another such blow." It is up to the party's federal council, when it meets this Saturday, "to choose as its leader a man who can stay the course and, if he must, selflessly prepare the way for another man's triumph."

No Blacks Volunteer For SADF

"No black South African volunteered for national service in the South African Defense Force last year, Minister of Defence Magnus Malan said yesterday," Barry Streek reports on page 8. Malan also said that 1,847 Coloreds and 297 Indians had volunteered.

Schwarz Defends Pik Botha

Ormonde Pollock reports on the same page that PFP MP Harry Schwarz "sprang to the defence of Foreign Minister Pik Botha," describing the state president's reprimand of the foreign minister as a " 'spectacle.' " " 'If there is to be power-sharing without domination, irrespective of the nature of the structure, how can the office of the president be reserved for any particular group?' " Schwarz asked in Parliament.

Schwarz Not PFP Candidate

In another article on the same page, Pollock reports that Schwarz has formally declared he is not a candidate for the PFP leadership. Schwarz also said he intended to remain in Parliament "no matter how flawed the system."

SPCC in 'Tenuous Position'

In an article on the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee (SPCC) on page 17, Maud Motanyane comments on the SPCC's "tenuous" position. "Striking a balance between the views of radical pupils — so aggrieved by Bantu education that they no longer want anything to do with the system — and those of parents eager to see the children back behind their desks, has been a difficult task." And "how long the SPCC will hold on to its role of being a broker in the education crisis remains to be seen."

Inflation Forecast at 18 Percent

A report on page 18 cites stockbrokers Simpson, Frater, Stein & Strong as forecasting that "the average commercial rand will be about $0.39 in the current year and inflation will remain at a high of 18 percent." They note however that the improvement in the rand has "subdued widespread fears of hyper-inflation, that is, over 25 percent." Reasons for the inflation rate are that recession has forced producers to absorb costs which may be passed on to the consumer, government attempts to stimulate the economy, many price and wage adjustments, and the possible instability of the rand. They do not believe authorities want the rand to appreciate significantly more because they would rather use excess dollars to build up exchange reserves and a higher rand would decrease exports and increase imports.

Centenary Boycott

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 13 February reports on page 4 that "ten companies have pulled out of the Johannesburg centenary celebrations in support of a call to boycott the event, the Community Support Committee (COSCO) disclosed this week." The names of the firms were not given, however, by agreement.

Slabbert's Next Move

An article on page 6 by Prof Herman Gillomee of the University of Stellenbosh speculates on the motives of Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert for resigning as head of the Progressive Federal Party and on what he plans to do. Noting his frustrations with the lack of leadership in Parliament, the writer notes that the extraparliamentary opposition is even more leaderless. However, "there have been occasions when the extraparliamentary opposition has displayed impressive solidarity, a sound sense of tactics and a shrewd understanding of what demands were attainable," such as the Eastern Cape consumer boycotts. "South Africa desperately needs a strong and disciplined extra-parliamentary movement to wage the battle for peaceful change. The gulf between the ANC and the National Party is so wide that no negotiations are possible, except if a peaceful extraparliamentary movement succeeds in mobilising the middle ground." "Could it be that Dr Slabbert's real destiny be in connecting Stellenbosh and Rodebosh to the Cape Flats?"

Editorial on Statutory Councils

The *SOWETAN* comments on page 6 that the proposals for a national statutory council are going through the "throes of a slow and well deserved death." The state president's public reprimand of the foreign minister showed everybody "what he and some members of his Cabinet have in mind" and "resounded all the way out of Parliament to the black population — Chief Buthelezi included." Noting the West Rand Council Association's rejection of the statutory council, the editorial asks who "on earth" will sit on them. P.W. Botha should "play this game straight," the editorial says. He should say it is impossible to dismantle apartheid because his constituency will not allow it. He should say equal participation in government will never take place in his lifetime. It is, the editorial concludes, "the only decent thing to do."

Clash Over Schools

The Johannesburg *CITIZEN* in English for 13 February carries a report on page one by political correspondent Brian Stuart that a "serious political clash" is threatening between the government and the colored and Indian houses of Parliament over the opening of their schools to pupils of all races. A spokesman told the *CITIZEN* that National Education Minister De Klerk "did not wish to comment" until he had met with the two ministers concerned — Carter Ebrahim, minister of education and culture in the House of Representatives, and K. Ramduth, equivalent minister in the House of Delegates. A spokesman of the majority Labor Party in the House of Representatives and majority National People's Party in the House of Delegates, told the *CITIZEN* that their parties were "committed to ending apartheid." This included a demand for a single department of education for all races.

Editorial on Blacks Killing Blacks

Commenting on page 6 on the recent killing of seven blacks by "people's courts," the *CITIZEN* says the "killing of blacks by blacks in the most horrible way is one of the worst features of the unrest, suggesting a savagery that goes well beyond ordinary protest." A generation has become so used to attacks on people and property that there is a "danger that violence will become the norm rather than the exception." "Heaven help South Africa if black against black savagery becomes a permanent feature of township life as well." It is time, the editorial says, that "blacks saw violence as being both self-defeating and a curse."

Dutch Reformed Church Outlook

An article on page eight quotes an editorial in *DIE KERKBODE*, official organ of the Dutch Reformed Church, that 1986 will be "a watershed year for South Africa and for the family of Dutch Reformed churches." *DIE KERKBODE* said " 'far-reaching reforms...raised the moral question (of) whether whites in practice — and not just on paper — will grant others the rights and privileges they demand for themselves.' " The article says the editorial also said the "troubled relationship" between the white and colored churches would receive "particular attention" during the year.

New Nonracial Ordinance

A new shop hours ordinance passed by the Transvaal Provincial Council has been hailed as " 'a milestone of totally non-racial legislation.' " A page eleven article says a progressive Federal Party provincial council member said the ordinance was " 'totally non-discriminatory in colour, race or sex. Nowhere in the ordinance are the words black or white.' " The ordinance replaces one used for 75 years which specifically provided for "black towns," "black areas," "whites," and "locations."

MP's Furious Over Boraine Resignation

In a front-page article in Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 13 February, political correspondent David Braun reports "PFP MP's were furious" over the resignation of the party's federal executive chairman, Alex Boraine. "One said it was because Dr Boraine realised he was not going to become leader." PFP MP's in Parliament "are adamant" that they will not follow Slabbert's and Boraine's lead and say they have a commitment to the voters.

Buthelezi Wants Official Invitation

Commenting on President P.W. Botha's statement that his door was open to KwaZulu Chief Minister Chief Buthelezi "to discuss with him any issues on which he wanted clarity, including the proposed national statutory council," the paper reported on page 5 that Chief Buthelezi "said he was waiting for an official invitation to talks with the state president."

Government Enhancing Mandela's Image

In a report on page 4, PFP MP Brian Goodall told a meeting in Bedfordview that "the government had done more to increase the stature of jailed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela than anyone else." Goodall said "that if Mandela were to be released he would lose the support he enjoys now 'when he does not deliver the goods.' "

Country Not Off Hook

In an editorial on page 16, *THE STAR* says that even if an agreement is reached on South Africa's foreign debt repayment, "the country will not be left off the hook by overseas bankers and the international community." "The outside world has to be convinced South Africa is not in the throes of a revolution, that racial repression is on its way out, and that money invested here will not only be safe but will be free of the apartheid taint," all of which take time to accomplish.

BEELD on Statutory Council

The Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 13 February says in an editorial on page 12 that "some people believe that another initiative is going off the rails following Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's critical questions on the National Statutory Council." His demands are that the structures and functions of the council should be clearly stated, it should not be a "talking house", and blacks should not be the "political porters". Naturally President Botha cannot reveal details now because they will have to be negotiated. Therefore, his invitation to Chief Buthelezi should be valued. "Come and discuss your problems privately rather than publicly." Concluding, it asks "What now from Chief Buthelezi? It seems to us like a typical example of someone who is mustering courage to say 'yes'. He is critical but not condemnatory. He is setting conditions that do not seem unattainable. If that is the case then success is nearer than what many people think."

DIE VADERLAND on Black Murders

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 12 February says in an editorial on page 8 that "gruesome acts such as the latest murders in the Eastern Cape are what we feared when we warned at the onset of violence that this sort of 'reform campaign' is a threat that could be self-destructing." Indications are that the victims were Azanian People's Organization members and the executioners were United Democratic Front men. Very often it happens the other way around. The editorial notes that "it is unfortunate that blacks are murdering one another while the government's vehicle for peaceful and negotiated reform is not being used."

ZAMBIA

Foreign Minister Denies Mandela Release to Lusaka

MB141210 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 14 Feb 86

[Text] Zambia has denied that Mandela is to be released and flown to Lusaka. Zambia's foreign minister, Lameck Goma, says his government has no knowledge of reports that the jailed ANC leader is about to be set free and sent to Lusaka.

He was dismissing speculation in the Zambian capital and elsewhere that Mr Mandela's release was imminent. Mr Goma said that Mr Mandela's family have stated that they do not want to be expelled [as heard] and the international community wants Mr Mandela to be released in South Africa.